

Dumas harshly assails Israel

BAHRAIN (AP) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas Monday harshly criticized Israel's refusal to accept a U.N. commission of inquiry as a "grave error." On the Palestinian issue, Dumas said France was in step with United Nations decisions on Kuwait but added his country believes an overall Mideast settlement could be considered after Iraq withdraws from Kuwait. The French foreign minister, who arrived from Qatar, confirmed French warplanes will be based in that Gulf state but said discussions on the number and type had not been concluded yet. "I think it's a grave error," he said of Israel's refusal to accept a U.N. commission. "Whoever wishes to have respect for law should wish for the application of international law as laid down by the United Nations," Dumas told a news conference in Manama.

(Continued on page 4)

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UAE leader thanks King

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Monday received a cable of thanks and appreciation from President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan in reply to a condolence cable the King sent over the death of UAE Vice-President and Prime Minister Sheikh Rashed Ben Sultan Ben Saeed Al Maktoum.

7 Injured in highway pile-up

AMMAN (J.T.) — Seven people were seriously injured in an accident involving 13 cars, lorries and trucks which occurred Monday on the desert highway, near Swa'a rehabilitation centre. The Civil Defence Department (CDD) attributed the accident to dusty weather which caused a short field of vision. It said the injured were transferred to hospitals.

Soviet cargo plane lands in Saudi Arabia

SAUDI ARABIA (AP) — A Soviet Antonov AN-124 cargo plane, the world's largest aircraft, started observers when it turned up Monday at an airfield in eastern Saudi Arabia. The plane was sitting on the tarmac with its nose and tail doors open. Military trucks were parked nearby and witnesses said they could see crates being unloaded, but not what they contained. Aeroflot, the name of the Soviet state airline, was visible on the side of the white aircraft. One Saudi source, insisting on anonymity, said the Soviets have been bringing in supplies for the Syrian forces deployed as part of Operation Desert Shield. Neither Saudi nor U.S. officials would comment on the plane's presence.

Iraq allows Egyptian pilots to return home

CAIRO (R) — Iraq allowed 36 Egyptian pilots who had been training its air force to go home last week, the weekly Egyptian newspaper Mayo said Monday. The pilots, based in Basra and Baghdad, stopped training shortly after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2 but Iraqi authorities had prevented them from returning home, said Mayo, the official newspaper of the ruling National Democratic Party.

Mine kills two in Lebanon

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon (R) — A land mine killed two women in South Lebanon Monday and wounded a married couple travelling with them, security sources said. They said their car detonated the mine in the village of Shebban in Israel's self-declared "security zone." Gunmen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) dismantled an explosive charge they found near the wreckage of the car, the sources said.

Dugan still at work

WASHINGTON (AP) — General Michael J. Dugan, fired last month as air force chief of staff for missing U.S. contingency plans for war with Iraq, is still at work in the Defence Department, a spokesman said Monday. Dugan remains on active duty and has been working as a special assistant to Air Force Secretary Donald B. Rice since shortly after Defence Secretary Dick Cheney fired Dugan on Sept. 17, said air force spokesman Joe Purba. The matter of Dugan's status arose after Cheney said during a radio interview in London Monday that Dugan is "no longer in the air force."

Turkey to execute

ANKARA (R) — A Turkish minister said the government planned to execute nearly 200 political extremists held on death row. The weekend comments by State Minister Mehmet Koceler outraged reaction from Turkey's opposition Social Democrats Monday. "I can't believe they will bring such a proposal before parliament. It is shameful. It is incredible. The state will have turned itself into terrorism," Erdal Inom, chairman of the Social Democrat Populist party (SHP), told reporters.

Israel to house more immigrants in Arab Jerusalem despite pledge to U.S. Shamir urges Knesset to defy U.N. mission

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir called on parliament Monday to unite behind him in the face of U.N. condemnation of the massacre of at least 30 Palestinians in Arab Jerusalem a week ago. He spoke as British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd arrived on a visit likely to increase pressure for Israel to accept a U.N. investigation of the massacre.

Israeli officials disclosed that Foreign Minister David Levy had received a strongly-worded appeal from the United States, Israel's guardian ally, urging the cabinet to accept the U.N. mission. Shamir cited a Sunday cabinet statement refusing cooperation with a three-member U.N. team to investigate the Oct. 8 killings. There is no room for any involvement on the part of the United Nations in any matter relating to Jerusalem, just as the United Nations does not intervene in events, some even more severe, that occur in other countries," Shamir said.

"I hope that the whole Knesset (parliament) will unite around these words which stand at the heart of the consensus in Israel," he said.

Israel "annexed" Arab Jerusalem in 1967 and considers all Jerusalem as its capital. But most

Bush: Resolution must be applied

WASHINGTON (R) — President George Bush said Monday he favoured full implementation of a U.N. resolution to send a team to Jerusalem to investigate last Monday's massacre of Palestinians, despite an Israeli decision not to cooperate with the inquiry. "We want to see that U.N. resolution fully implemented. We are a part of it and we think it's the right step," Bush told reporters aboard Air Force One en route to Texas.

of the world rejects Israeli sovereignty.

The Israeli officials said the message to Levy from U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was delivered before the cabinet vote by U.S. Ambassador to Israel William Brown.

"I wish to emphasise that if Israel rejects the Security Council decision, there will be some who will compare you, even though it is not justified, to Saddam Hussein and his rejection of Security Council decisions," Yedioth Ahronoth, Israel's biggest Hebrew-language newspaper, quoted Baker as saying.

The officials confirmed the content of the message. They said it proved the United States had joined the condemnation of Israel to satisfy Washington's Arab allies in the Gulf crisis.

Baker wrote that "Israel played into the hands" of Iraq by not being prepared for the violence in Arab Jerusalem.

"The aggression of Saddam Hussein is the real issue the world should be concerned about. We want to keep that in focus and you too should do that," Baker's message said.

"This week we are requesting to go back to the Security Council with a new resolution on Iraqi aggression. Let's not let Saddam Hussein off the hook," Baker wrote.

In parliament, opposition Labour Party leader Shimon Peres said: "You succeeded, Yitzhak Shamir, not only in lowering the status of the government but also of Israel — not only before the world but also the United States."

Israel Radio said Labour would lead a parliamentary effort to bring down the government next week. But Shamir appeared likely to withstand the challenge.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier

Iraq toughens stand with fresh warning

Combined agency dispatches

IRAQ reaffirmed its tough position Monday, as top officials insisted that not even war could change the fact that Kuwait was now Iraq's 19th province.

In London, U.S. Secretary of State Dick Cheney said Monday that American troops could remain in Saudi Arabia for years, if necessary. In Moscow, meanwhile, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze assured legislators the Kremlin had no plans to join the international forces in the Gulf (see page 2).

Baghdad warned that Israel and other "strongholds of conspiracy" would be crushed if Iraq were attacked by the U.S.-led forces in the Gulf. A top Iraqi minister said there was "no room for any compromise about Kuwait."

But Iraqi troops were reported to be fencing off a third of Kuwait, including the northern oil fields. Recent Kuwaiti exiles saw the move as a sign Baghdad may be considering a partial withdrawal.

Meanwhile, Kuwait's oil minister tried to calm fears about soaring oil prices, which one oil expert claimed could hit \$100 a barrel if war broke

out in the Gulf. Kuwaiti officials back military action to force Iraq to withdraw from the emirate it annexed in August.

Baghdad's tough stance followed reports over the weekend that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein might be showing some "flexibility" about withdrawing from Kuwait.

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz said Arab blood was more important than oil and international law should be applied to the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories.

In a statement on arrival in Morocco Sunday night to attend Monday's meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Jerusalem Committee, he said world powers were guilty of hypocrisy and deceit when claiming to respect international law.

The OIC was meeting to discuss the massacre of Palestinians in Jerusalem last week by Israelis.

Officials said the Gulf crisis was not on the agenda of the meeting but a senior Moroccan diplomat said the crisis was expected to be discussed on the sidelines.

"The Zionist crime has taken place in a framework... of deceit and hypocrisy on the part of the interna-

tional power which claim to care about international law when it serves their interests," the Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Aziz as saying.

He said they prevaricated and manoeuvred when Arabs were victims of injustice. "We do not accept being treated with two yardsticks and by two different standards."

Apparently referring to the United States, he said "the one who claims to respect international law and the United Nations Charter should prove this at a time when the Palestinian people suffer the atrocities of Israeli occupation."

"If this double standard persists towards Arab preoccupations, we must state our position clearly and move from words to action," he said.

In Baghdad, Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Sunday his country was prepared "to confront whatever happens" in trying to hold onto Kuwait.

Iraqi Information Minister Latif Jasssem echoed those comments. "There is no room for any compromise about Kuwait," he said. "Kuwait is the 19th province of Iraq and this fact will not be changed

Hrawi seeks to unify Beirut, maintains siege of Aoun

Combined agency dispatches

PRESIDENT ELLAS Hrawi's government started Monday re-unifying war-divided Beirut and moved to create a militia-free capital after crushing General Michel Aoun's 11-month mutiny.

Government bulldozers removed earth mounds, rocks and other obstacles from the Galerie Semaan intersection, which commands the highway linking Muslim-dominated highway linking south Beirut with the mostly Christian suburbs of Hazmiyeh and Baabda and leads to Syria across the central mountains.

Syrian and Lebanese troops also reinforced their grip on mainly Christian east Beirut and pursued their siege of the French embassy where ousted Aoun sheltered for a third day.

Security sources quoted by Reuters said Syrian troops had detained several of Aoun's top officers and more Syrian and Lebanese tanks and vehicles were brought in to back up troops manning checkpoints and guard-

ing crossroads.

With Aoun defeated, hundreds of his supporters feeling vulnerable to rival groups flocked to join one of the main Christian militia groups, led by Elie Hobeika.

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Mitterrand: No handing over of Aoun

PARIS (AP) — President Francois Mitterrand said Monday that he would reject any request by Lebanese authorities to hand over Michel Aoun, who took refuge at the French embassy in Beirut after his weekend defeat. "I will tell them in advance, 'no,'" Mitterrand said at a news conference devoted primarily to the situation in Lebanon.

"Gen. Aoun is a refugee at the French embassy," Mitterrand said. "He has demanded political asylum in France, and France has granted it to him. It is a matter of honour for her (France). She will protect Gen. Aoun and his security."

Witnesses told Reuters the Christians went to Hobeika after a gun-battle involving rivals Sunday because they felt unprotected by the Syrian soldiers.

"Scores of young men who were with Aoun, including his bodyguards, are joining Hobeika," said one witness. Police said leftist and Muslim militias moved into some Christian villages after Aoun's troops collapsed to settle old scores with traditional civil war foes.

A police spokesman said gunmen of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah advanced to Beirut's Christian suburb of Hadath Sunday and were involved in "kidnapping Christians and looting houses."

There was no sign of a breakthrough in the deadlock between France and the Hrawi government over Aoun.

The general, who vowed to fight to the death, died on Saturday after an attack on his headquarters and sought asylum with his family at the French embassy.

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15 Spaniards arrive from Iraq

AMMAN (R) — Fifteen Spanish men released by Iraq arrived here Monday on their way home and said they were happy to be free again. "I am tired, but happy to be free," said Luis Espinosa. The 15 jubilant men hugged the Spanish ambassador to Jordan, Ramon Armengod, other embassy staff and journalists at Amman airport after flying from Baghdad on an Iraqi plane. They said they had stayed at the homes of the Spanish embassy staff in Baghdad and were free to move around the city. Spain's charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Juan Jose Buitrago, was among the 15. He said he left Kuwait for Baghdad two weeks ago. The freed men were accompanied by Christina Almeida, head of a Spanish parliamentary delegation which went to Iraq to appeal for the release of Spaniards. "We are very happy for the release of the 15 and we hope the other nationalities will leave soon too," Almeida told reporters at the airport. She said she had a message from Iraq to the Spanish people. "The message is that there is friendship between the people of Iraq and the people of Spain and that friendship cannot finish with a war, it must go on the way it was," she said.

Jordan denies expelling Egyptian workers or having plans to do so

By Ghadeer Taher Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan Monday categorically denied reports that it had expelled Egyptian workers or had plans to adopt new measures to deport them and the status of Egyptian nationals in the Kingdom remained unchanged.

Minister of Labour Ouseim Obaidat described as "groundless" Egyptian media reports Sunday that Jordan was carrying out a systematic campaign to round up and deport Egyptian workers. He said the Kingdom had no intention of deporting Egyptians with valid work permits.

Egyptian workers are still employed in Jordan and nothing has changed in their legal status, the minister told the Jordan Times.

Egypt's semi-official Middle East News Agency (MENA) and the state-controlled daily Al Ahram had said that Jordan had sent home 50,000 Egyptians from July to September and had decided to deport 70,000 more.

Obaidat also denied that Jordan had imposed a fine of \$300 on Egyptian nationals before deporting them as reported by MENA.

An Egyptian diplomat based in Amman said the embassy was unaware of any Jordanian moves to expel Egyptians. "There is no systematic campaign to expel workers," the diplomat said Monday.

"Those who are leaving are those who are in violation of the Jordanian labour law," he told the Jordan Times speaking on condition of anonymity.

According to Obaidat, 200,000 Egyptians are working in the Kingdom but only 40,000 possess valid work permits. A Ministry of Labour official said the government's policy had not changed since March when it announced plans to deport illegal workers after a two-month grace period.

"We will only repatriate Egyptian or Arab workers if they are found to have violated Jordanian labour laws," the official said.

"These (violations) include working without a permit or working in a profession different from which they were given a permit to practice," he said.

A Jordanian official interpreted the Egyptian press reports as a double-pronged attempt by Cairo. The first, he said, was to "pressure Jordan against implementing its labour laws and regulations."

The second was an attempt to solicit sympathy from the Gulf states to absorb more Egyptian workers, according to the official.

Thousands of Egyptian workers and their dependents have left the Kingdom either because of their

illegal residence and employment status or as a result of Jordan's economic problems and the strain in relations between Amman and Cairo over the Gulf crisis.

"I used to send home much more but now the dinar is worth less and Jordan's economic problems are getting worse," said an Egyptian working in the agriculture sector. "I am thinking of going back home," he added.

Jordan is grappling with a high unemployment problem which has been aggravated by the return of tens of thousands of Jordanians from Kuwait and other Gulf states. The government has formed a task force to study ways to tackle unemployment.

Ministry issues warning The Ministry of Labour Monday warned Jordanian businesses against firing Jordanian employees without justification or reason. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, the ministry said it had noticed arbitrary dismissal of Jordanian employees by different establishments, especially hotels.

Such actions violate Jordan's labour law regulations, the ministry said. Obaidat warned the "concocted institutions not to fire Jordanian employees and to abide by the regulations."

Jordan needs urgent aid, not pledges, U.N. envoy says

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan needs immediate financial assistance rather than pledges of medium-term aid to cope with the impact of the Gulf crisis and the Kingdom's adherence to sanctions against Iraq, and any delay in extending help could have very serious repercussions on the national economy. This is a finding of a special United Nations envoy who spent four days in Jordan assessing the impact of the Gulf crisis and the sanctions on Iraq on the Kingdom's economy.

"Jordan needs aid today, not tomorrow," said Jean-Ripert, a former United Nations official who was assigned to study Jordan's economic situation by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the international community should give priority to Jordan while deciding on assistance to countries economically hit by the Gulf crisis," Ripert told the Jordan Times shortly before he left Amman for his visit. "Jordan has received less money today rather than pledges of larger assistance."

The assistance to Jordan should come mostly in the form of outright grants and long-term soft

loans rather than short-term commercial loans, he said. Jordan, which is already struggling under the heavy burden of about \$8.4 billion in foreign debts, "can do without short-term loans" which will only add further complications to its economy, he said.

Ripert, whose comments reflected a very clear understanding of the economic problems facing Jordan, said that while the Kingdom would lose as much as 30 per cent of its gross national product (GNP) during 1990 and about 50 per cent in 1991 in the form of exports, higher oil prices, expatriate remittances, transit charges etc., other countries stood to lose between 1.5 per cent and four per cent of their GNP as a result of the Gulf crisis.

"Jordan's situation and problems are unique as far as the countries hit by the crisis are concerned," he said. "Every aspect of its economy — budget, GNP, balance of payments and others — have been hit very badly," he noted.

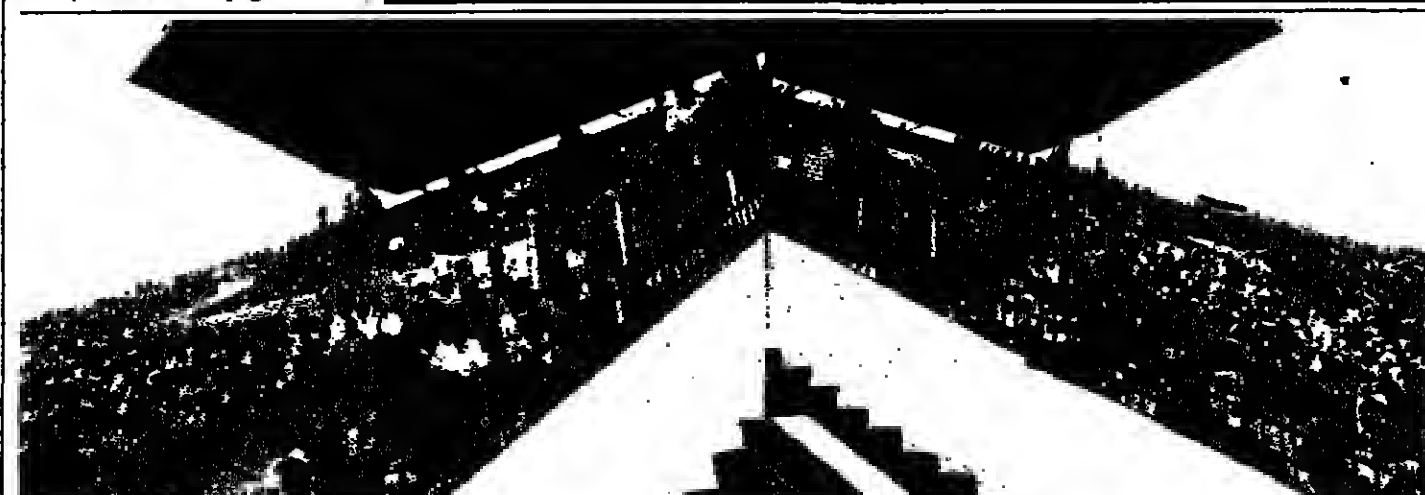
"I have learnt of the concrete consequences of the Gulf crisis and the Iraq sanctions on Jordan's economy," he said. "To me, it resembles a patient who is clearly on his way to recovery and (is) then

suddenly hit by a stroke," he said referring to the pre-Gulf crisis situation when all signs indicated the Kingdom was following a steady and stable economic course under the foreign debt burden. He indicated that Perez de Cuellar shared this opinion.

"Jordan cannot simply afford a loss of such magnitude, nor can it maintain any order in its economy without immediate assistance," said Ripert, who held several rounds of talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Finance Minister Basel Jaradneh, Industry and Trade Minister Ziad Fariz, and senior Central Bank officials. "I will be recommending to the U.N. secretary-general that the international community and organisations should extend urgent help to Jordan. This is my net conclusion."

Jordan has informed the United Nations that it would lose around \$2 billion as a result of the Gulf crisis and the sanctions against Iraq and Ripert said while he had formulated any "final figures," the recommendations he would make to the U.N. chief "will not be much

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A scene from Monday's rally at Amman stadium (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Solidarity event urges preservation of democracy, support for intifada and Iraq

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — About 8,000 people Monday marked the eighth day of a massacre of at least 30 Palestinians by Israelis at the Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem with calls for stepped up support for the Palestinian struggle for liberation.

Speakers at the two-and-a-half-hour event, organised by the Jordan Arab National Democratic Alliance (JANDA), called on the public to preserve Jordan's democratisation process while doing their utmost to support the Palestinian intifada and the people of Iraq.

The speakers, espousing liberal, leftist and pan-Arab ideologies and leanings, also called on the government to increase its facilities to train the public basic civil and military

defence.

Although the Popular Committee for Support of the Intifada, which has strong organisational links to JANDA, organised a folklore programme Friday afternoon which was attended by about 10,000 people, Monday's rally was the first "political" event organised by JANDA since last Monday's massacre in Jerusalem.

Coming only two days after a mass rally by Islamists which drew an estimated 30,000 people, the JANDA event appeared to underline the organisational differences between the two political trends if not the popular support they enjoy.

While the Muslim Brotherhood had relative freedom to organise, meet and spread their ideology over the last 20 years, political parties with pan-Arab and leftist thoughts were

not tolerated since political parties were banned in the Kingdom in 1957.

As 10 representatives of different professional associations, unions and pan-Arab and leftist parties addressed Monday's audience in sometimes long and drawn out speeches, the crowd chanted popular slogans, threw paper planes and children ran around the stadium waving Palestinian flags.

In a far-off side of the stadium about 50 youths burned flags with the Nazi Swastika while two dozen men knelt in prayer on an opposite side of the stadium.

As the speakers repeatedly condemned Israel, the American intervention in the Gulf and the unwavering U.S. support for Israel as well as the Arab countries which have aligned themselves with the superpower, crowds whistled and cheered.

Mamdouh Al Abbadi, head of the Jordanian Medical Union and spokesman for JANDA, got the loudest cheers. His speech was a five-minute reiteration of the "oneness" of Jordan and its people with the people in the Israeli-occupied territories and the people of Iraq in the face of foreign aggression and intervention.

As the Palestinian folklore group Baladna appeared on the podium and began singing the crowd, initially spread out all over the stadium, gathered to sing along and cheer on what has become one of the most popular groups in the Kingdom.

As the band sang and the politicians sat up high on the podium, a group of small boys held up a big Palestinian flag and carrying it high above their heads ran around the stadium.

Kuwait is ready to discuss dispute with Iraq after pullout

JEDDAH (Agencies) — The toppled government of Kuwait said Monday it was ready to discuss any pending dispute with Baghdad after Iraqi troops leave the emirate.

Such talks could include claims on disputed islands, Oil Minister Rashid Salem al Ameri said.

"After the withdrawal and the return of the 'legitimate' government, Kuwait is always flexible to negotiate any pending dispute," he told a news conference in this Saudi city.

Asked if talks could include Iraq's claims to strategic islands, he said: "There is room for discussion and negotiation on any pending issue."

A dispute over land and oil helped trigger Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait after the collapse of conciliation talks in Saudi Arabia.

Iraq claims the islands of Buhayyan and Warba, and the Rumailah border oilfield.

Occupation of the islands now gives Baghdad independent access to the rebar on the Shatt Al Arh river, shared with former Iraq.

Iraq also said that Kuwait had sabotaged its economy by pumping too much oil and driving down world prices. Baghdad accused Kuwait of stealing billions of dollars of oil from Iraqi fields near the desert frontier.

Ameri said Kuwait wanted a total and unconditional Iraqi withdrawal in line with United Nations resolutions which have mobilised international sanctions against Baghdad.

But, asked if talks could start after a partial Iraqi withdrawal, he said this was a matter for the Saudi-based toppled government to decide.

Ameri said Iraqi forces had mined several oilfields and refineries in Kuwait. Machinery, drilling and transport equipment had been taken to Iraq, he charged.

Almost everything in Kuwait, from industry to schools had been damaged, he said. No financial estimate of losses was yet available.

He said damage to oil facilities if war broke out was difficult to predict but voiced hope production could resume soon after the crisis was resolved.

"We have done our best with friends and companies specialised in putting out fires and we hope that with international assistance it would not take a long time," he said.

He described speculation that a war would drive crude prices from their present level of nearly \$40 a barrel to \$100 as an exaggeration.

Strategic reserves of oil supplies in Europe and the United States were enough to keep prices down, he said.

A peaceful settlement would stabilise prices around a target of \$21 a barrel, he said.

No Soviet troops to Gulf without parliament okay

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union will not commit troops to the Gulf without the approval of parliament, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Monday.

Addressing parliament, Shevardnadze said he was well aware of concerns that Moscow would decide to join the forces deployed around Iraq as suddenly and secretly as the Kremlin had sent troops into Afghanistan in 1979.

The foreign minister repeated earlier statements that the Kremlin would send troops only as part of a United Nations force. And the Kremlin would ask parliament's approval, he said.

"This is not 1979, a year of great tragedy, when the decision was taken to send Soviet troops into Afghanistan. Any use of Soviet troops outside the country demands a decision of the Soviet parliament," Shevardnadze said.

Earlier this month, hardline deputies denounced Shevardnadze for declaring at the United Nations that Moscow was willing to send troops to the Gulf under UN auspices.

The "Soyuz" (Union) group said any dispatch of troops to join the more than 400,000 from other countries already deployed in the region would make the Soviet Union a target for Iraqi missile attacks.

Shevardnadze, delivering a speech on his foreign policy, stressed that Moscow had no

plans to get involved in military operations in the Gulf.

And he said that as a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, the Soviet Union had the right to veto any use of force by that organisation.

Moscow, formerly Baghdad's ally and chief arms supplier, stopped arms sales to Baghdad after Iraq invaded Kuwait on Aug. 2.

In Washington last week, a Defence Department official said U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney would ask for intelligence on Iraq during his visit to Moscow. He is scheduled to arrive Wednesday.

The official complained that Moscow has failed to provide Washington with data on the Iraqi military.

Also Sunday, the weekly Moscow News published a commentary by a specialist on international security issues calling for the Soviet Union to send a volunteer military contingent to the Gulf.

"Such action could strengthen the army's prestige and its role... as guarantor of stability, law and order," wrote Alexei Arbatov of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations.

Concerns of some Soviet generals about the Western military buildup on the southern Soviet border "could only be fully removed by the USSR taking part in a multilateral military presence in the Gulf region," Arbatov wrote.

Americans begin to doubt Bush

WASHINGTON (R) — Americans are beginning to doubt the quality of President George Bush's leadership as they grow restive over the lengthening Gulf standoff and an uncertain economic outlook.

New public opinion polls show the president's popularity plummeting from record levels, indicating that the loo honeymoon he has enjoyed since taking office in January 1989 has drawn to a close.

Support for the president was shown as eroding dramatically in recent weeks as the Gulf crisis dragged on with no sign of a quick resolution while a huge and growing force of troops, planes and warships is deployed in the Gulf region confronting Iraq.

Mounting evidence that the United States is in or on the brink of recession, with the stock market slumping, and concern about the president's handling of the drive for major

cuts in the huge budget deficit are also eating into Bush's popularity.

A New York Times-CBS news poll released Sunday showed the president's approval rating dropping to 60 per cent from 76 per cent just two months ago.

A poll by the Gallup organisation and reported in Newsweek magazine found Bush's overall approval rating slipping by an even bigger margin, to 54 per cent from 80 per cent in January.

Support for his handling of the Gulf crisis dropped to 57 per cent from 75 per cent just after the Aug. 2 Iraq invasion of Kuwait, according to the New York Times-CBS poll.

With his popularity eroding, Bush faces some of the toughest decisions of his presidency. Within the next few months he must decide whether to wage war on Iraq if Baghdad refuses to withdraw from Kuwait.

The confusing political battle over how to manage the budget deficit has marred Bush's leadership image, split his Republican Party and sapped his approval rating in the polls.

The dispute, which has pitted Bush and congressional leaders against rank-and-file members of Congress, last weekend led to a brief shutdown of non-essential government services.

Bush's reversals this week on the role of tax increases in trimming \$500 billion off the deficit raised fresh questions about his leadership capabilities.

The New York Times-CBS news poll showed 52 per cent of Americans disapproved of Bush's handling of the economy, while 58 per cent disapproved of the way he handled the budget deficit — a majority in both cases. Elderly Americans in particular expressed disappointment with talk of raising taxes and medi-

care health insurance premiums.

Bush pulled out all the stops with a televised address to win support for a \$500 billion deficit reduction package negotiated by congressional leaders and the White House that would have raised additional taxes and cut spending for the medicare programme for the elderly.

But he failed to muster enough support from his own party members and the plan was dealt a crushing defeat in the House of Representatives, causing a crisis that led to a three-day shutdown of some government services.

At a news conference Tuesday, Bush indicated he would be willing to consider a proposal that raised tax rates on the wealthy in exchange for a reduction in capital gains taxes. Later that day the White House hacked away from that position.

Israeli officer reports 'incredible' beating orders

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli soldiers received "incredible" orders to beat Palestinians while quelling protests at the start of the uprising, a senior officer said Sunday, according to Israel Radio.

The testimony coincided with mounting world criticism of the use of force by Israeli troops in the aftermath of the Haram Al Sahri killings last month.

Col. Yoni Shimshoni spoke at the trial of Yehuda Meir, the radio said. Col. Meir is the highest ranking Israeli officer to be tried during the 34-month uprising, for allegedly sanctioning excessive use of force.

He is accused of ordering soldiers to break the bones of Palestinians in two West Bank villages in January 1988, while serving as commander of the Nablus area.

Meir was charged March 29 on seven felony counts. The most severe was causing bodily harm with malicious intent, which carries a maximum 20-year jail sentence.

According to the charges, soldiers under Meir's orders detained 21 Palestinians in two West Bank villages, bound and gagged and then beat them with rifles and clubs.

Meir has admitted giving the orders, claiming they were in keeping with instructions from then-Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Rabin has repeatedly said beatings were allowed to get a protest under control but that troops were told detainees could not be struck unless they resisted arrest.

The beatings were intended as a way of reducing the number of deaths from gunshot wounds in the uprising which began Dec. 8, 1987. Some beatings have resulted in deaths. Four officers were convicted on Oct. 1 of aggravated assault for a beating in which a 21-year-old Palestinian died in February 1988.

Meir also appointed an independent commission of inquiry into the chain of events, their causes and the actions of the security forces. The commission will present its conclusions and recommendations at the earliest possible date. As is known, the state of Israel ensures complete freedom of religion in the holy sites of all religions, in accordance with the law. Never, in all the history of Jerusalem, has freedom of religion for all been guaranteed as it has been since the city was unified under Israeli sovereignty in 1967, and never has the city been more open to all.

3. Jerusalem is not, in any part, "occupied territory." It is the sovereign capital of the state of Israel. Therefore, there is no room for any involvement on the part of the United Nations in any matter relating to Jerusalem, just as the United Nations does not intervene in events, some even more severe, that occur in other countries.

4. Given the above, Israel will not receive the delegation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

5. Israel will continue to assume responsibility, in accordance with its laws, for the safeguarding of holy places and for the security of all residents of Jerusalem. Jews and Arabs, as in all other areas it controls.

6. The State of Israel expressed its regret over the loss of life that occurred as a result of events on the Temple Mount, at a time when security forces were responsible for fulfilling their

duties. Israel also appointed an independent commission of inquiry into the chain of events, their causes and the actions of the security forces. The commission will present its conclusions and recommendations at the earliest possible date. As is known, the state of Israel ensures complete freedom of religion in the holy sites of all religions, in accordance with the law. Never, in all the history of Jerusalem, has freedom of religion for all been guaranteed as it has been since the city was unified under Israeli sovereignty in 1967, and never has the city been more open to all.

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8. Given the above, Israel will not receive the delegation of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

9. Israel will continue to assume responsibility, in accordance with its laws, for the safeguarding of holy places and for the security of all residents of Jerusalem. Jews and Arabs, as in all other areas it controls.

10. The State of Israel expressed its regret over the loss of life that occurred as a result of events on the Temple Mount, at a time when security forces were responsible for fulfilling their

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MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Qadhafi backs removal of Aoun

DAMASCUS (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on Sunday telephoned Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to voice support for the removal of Lebanon's defiant army general, Michel Aoun, officials said. Qadhafi discussed with Assad Saturday's assault by Syrian and Lebanese troops which forced Aoun to surrender and seek refuge at the French Embassy in Beirut, they added. "Qadhafi confirmed that what happened was great and is considered an important development which served the interests of Lebanon and the Arabs," they said. Aoun was defying the authority of elected President Elias Hrawi, who asked for Syrian help to dislodge him.

Youth riots over jobs in Algeria

ALGIERS (R) — Unemployed youths ransacked a police post and stoned a government building in eastern Algeria Sunday to protest at the way new jobs were being distributed. Algerian radio said Monday. Police used tear-gas to disperse the demonstrators in the city of Tebessa. The protesters accused provincial authorities of favouritism in allocating new jobs. The unrest was the second bout of violence by unemployed youths after thousands blocked traffic and burned down a municipal office in another eastern town, Kois, Saturday. The Algerian news agency APS said calm returned to Kois on Sunday after the intervention of the imam of a local mosque. APS quoted an official in Tebessa as saying the youths had been manipulated by an unidentified political party which sought advantage in next year's first free general elections. Tebessa's provincial council is dominated by the opposition Islamic Salvation Front but the country's ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) has 10 of 23 seats.

Soviet nationals leave Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — More than 120 Soviet men, mostly oil technicians, left Baghdad for Moscow Sunday night aboard a Tupolev airliner, Baghdad airport sources said. The departure of the men followed an Iraqi threat two days ago to stop some Soviet nationals leaving the country if Moscow passed on Baghdad's military secrets to Washington. The warning was issued after reports from Pentagon sources said U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney would ask for details for Iraq's military capabilities during next week's visit to Moscow. The Soviet Union, which condemned Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and supports U.N. sanctions against its former ally, was Iraq's main arms supplier during the Gulf war and 93 Soviet military advisers are still here. Moscow intends to bring home nearly a third of the 5,000-strong contingent of technicians in Iraq before their contracts expire. The first batch of 128 Soviet nationals left Baghdad for Moscow Oct. 7. The Soviet Union is not taking part in the anti-Iraq, U.S.-dominated military buildup in the Gulf.

GRATITUDE

Ahmad and Aisha Laidi, former Ambassador of Algeria to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan express a deep gratitude to all our Friends in Jordan who were kind enough to share our grief at the passing away of our son

AKRAM AHMAD LAIDI

As a result of a tragic accident in Jacksonville/USA on September 29, 1990.

Address:
Ahmad & Aisha Laidi
135 Chemin Bechir El Ibrahimli
El-Biar
16030 Algiers - Algeria

Kuwaitis ponder reforms

By Francois Raitberger
Reuter

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia — Kuwaitis, shocked out of wealthy complacency by war and exile, say they will build a new society if the emirate is freed from Iraq.

Democracy, women's rights and greater dedication to the country were recurrent themes of discussions among 700 prominent Kuwaitis meeting in this Saudi city on the Red Sea.

"They made plans for 'when', rather than 'if', they returned," as all appeared convinced that Iraq, which invaded the emirate on Aug. 2, would soon withdraw of its own accord or by force.

"We hope to start a better and freer Kuwait when the war is over," Traq Al Suweidan, an oil expert turned politician-in-exile by the Iraqi invasion, told reporters.

"This crisis has changed us a lot psychologically. We must forget about luxury and start rebuilding with our own hands."

He said that young sports car lovers were now fighting Iraqis or collecting garbage in place of immigrant workers who had left the emirate. Woman, traditionally out of the limelight, were playing a major part in an anti-Iraqi civil disobedience movement.

At least 250,000 Kuwaitis, more than one third of the native population, are refugees, experiencing the bitterness of exile although they receive generous government stipends and many live in luxury hotels.

The unprecedented three-day gathering, which ended at the weekend, was called to discuss ways of liberating Kuwait.

But opposition leaders had said they were expecting a fight over their demands for a return to democracy and more power-sharing between the ruler Al Sabah family and the people.

Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah silenced controversy with an opening address pledging undefined democratic reforms and asking Kuwaitis to bury differences for the sake of unity in the "struggle for liberation."

Opposition politicians were quick to take Saad's pledge as meaning restoration of parliament dissolved in 1986 by the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, and replaced last June by an assembly including one third of appointed members.

"There will be elections after liberation," said Ahmad Abdul Aziz Saadoun, speaker of the dissolved parliament. Saad also dropped a hint that women, more westernised than in most other Gulf states

but excluded from political life, would gain recognition. "Kuwaiti women have confirmed they are equal to their brothers in the resistance... I am confident they will play a major role in our liberated Kuwait," he said.

Unveiled but dressed in the traditional black robe, Fatima Hussein, who escaped last week from Kuwait, was the only woman among the white-robed male delegates.

"I had not thought about it before, but I shall now encourage younger women to work for their rights," Hussein, the middle-aged wife of the planning minister, said.

Suweidan said it was essential that women be given the right to vote. Leading opposition politician Ahmad Al Khathib said he would campaign for total equality between sexes.

But Suweidan said reforms would send ripples through neighbouring countries and Kuwaitis should not upset their conservative Saudi hosts. "We don't want to abuse their hospitality, Kuwait should be respectful of other Gulf states,"

Several politicians said democratic reforms could be a crucial factor of stability in the Middle East, but they would take time as Islamic institutions could not be turned overnight into Western-style democracy.

The resumption of ties with Iraq follows Iran's restoration of relations with Britain, Tunisia and Mauritania last month.

Iran's stance that Iraq should not be allowed to keep Kuwait it seized Aug. 2.

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Marine jet clips off wing

DHAHRAN (AP) — A U.S. Marine Corps attack jet lost a metre of its wing when it hit an unknown obstruction during simulated combat operations, U.S. military spokesmen said Sunday.

The A-6E intruder was flying close air support for ground troops when it hit the "unidentified vertical obstacle" in the desert Saturday night, they said.

The pilot and navigator-bombardier were unburt and the aircraft retrofired safely to base despite the damage to its wing.

Major Michael Hughes, a Marine Corps spokesman, said the pilots were not using night vision goggles at the time.

The goggles are controversial because they supposedly restrict pilots' ability to see in all directions, and the question of their value has been raised in connection with several U.S. aircraft mishaps in Saudi Arabia.

The A-6E is an all-weather night attack aircraft with an advanced infrared target identification system.

It also is flown by the navy. It was the first mishap involving either an A-6E or a Marine Corps jet aircraft since "Operation Desert Shield" began in early August.

Six air force pilots have been killed in jet crashes in the Saudi kingdom and 13 crew members died in the crash of a C-5A cargo plane in Germany.

Eight Marines were killed last week when their two UH-1 Huey helicopters crashed in the north Arabian Sea and a CH-53 helicopter was destroyed earlier in a crash.

The Marines have been conducting "force on force" exercises in the Saudi desert, pitting one unit against a simulated enemy and calling for armoured artillery and air support.

Hughes said he had no information on how low the plane was flying or what the "vertical obstacle" was.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:40 Programme review

15:45 Children programmes

15:50 News Summary

16:10 Local programme

19:45 Programme review

20:30 News in Arabic

21:30 Programme review

21:40 Local programme

22:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:05 Documentary

18:35 Des chiffres et de lettres

19:00 News in French

19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 News in Arabic

21:10 Documentary

21:40 News in English

22:20 French feature film: "Le Bat-tan"

PRAYER TIMES

04:18 Fajr

05:35 Sunrise/Duha

11:21 Dhuhur

16:36 'Asr

17:07 Maghreb

18:34 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church, Sweifish Tel. 810700.

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785,

Spanish Red Cross to cooperate with JNRCS in helping evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Spanish Red Cross is willing to provide the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) with humanitarian assistance to help it carry out its operations in Jordan and offer help to the evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait, according to Maria Carmen Mestre, the Spanish Red Cross Society president.

Carmen Mestre also said that she wanted to promote cooperation between her society and the JNRCS in all humanitarian issues.

She made the statement shortly before her departure from Amman following a several day visit during which she visited JNRCS facilities and centres and met with officials to discuss bilateral cooperation.

Carmen Mestre also said that she was grateful to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein for releasing 15 Spaniards who have now been repatriated.

Carmen Mestre, who visited Baghdad on a humanitarian mission, said that she was concerned with the conditions at the Iraqi Red Crescent Hospital which, she said, lacks proper medical equipment.

"The Spanish Red Cross Society will do all it can to provide assistance and medical equipment to the Baghdad hospital through the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)," Carmen Mestre said in her statement.

On the other hand, an Icelandic Red Cross delegation member, Sigga Gudmundsdottir,

visited JNRCS centres and hospital in Amman Monday and had a meeting with Red Crescent officials to discuss cooperation in humanitarian affairs.

One of the centres visited by the Icelandic Red Cross official was the JNRCS vocational Training Centre which offers training courses free of charge to some 100 needy girls in dressmaking and at least 300 others in typing every year.

The Red Cross delegation from Iceland is here to supervise the minimal and racist action commissioning over of its relief supplies dispatched from Iceland to Jordan.

One plane load of relief supplies and blankets has already arrived and another is expected on Wednesday.

Businessmen condemn the Jerusalem massacre

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Monday issued a statement condemning Israel's state of Palestinian worship-mas, Jerusalem last Monday as a means for protecting the Palestinian people under Israeli

demns this outrageous massacre and the inhuman Israeli practices. The U.N. Security Council resolution 672 was not up to the gravity of the event or the level of daily suffering and continued Israeli violence against the Palestinian people," the statement added.

"The federation believes that sending a fact finding mission by U.N. secretary general, according to the said resolution, will be less effective; rather calls on the U.N. to send a fact-finding mission and peace keeping force to the occupied territories and to force Israel to abide by the Geneva Conventions on the protection of civilians during war," the statement continued.

Despite a surplus of food supplies in the silos of rich nations, at least 500 million people suffer from malnutrition

Jordan marks 'World Food Day'

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan along with other nations of the world Tuesday observes "World Food Day" which this year will be held under the slogan "The challenge ahead: food security for the future" as chosen by the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

"Jordan is attaching great importance to this day as it fully realises the importance of food security and the need for international cooperation to stem poverty, hunger and malnutrition," Minister of Agriculture Saleem Arabiyat said in an address on the eve of the celebration.

He said that Jordan sought to achieve justice and fair distribution of food, especially to the needy groups and the poor farmers.

"Despite immense technologic-

al development and a surplus of food supplies in the silos of rich nations, sufficient to meet all the needs of the world, at least 500 million people still suffer from malnutrition," the minister pointed out.

"These can be found mostly in rural regions where nearly 15 children die every minute at a time when nearly \$1 million is spent every minute by the countries of the world on armament," the minister added.

Arabiyat said the world community "is now called on to ensure food security for all nations through a proper and sustainable development programme."

The minister said that Jordan had been cooperating with FAO, implementing FAO projects and also receiving assistance from the organisation to help the

small farmers.

"Jordan is seeking to increase food production through a series of development projects which entail land development by planting more crops protecting the soil, planting fruit and forest trees, promoting pasture land, and preventing environment pollution by all means," the minister said.

The World Food Programme (WFP), established by FAO as the food aid organisation of the United Nations, aims at stimulating economic and social development through food aid and at providing emergency relief.

WFP became operational in January 1963 after concomitant resolutions of the U.N. General Assembly and the FAO conference to establish it in late 1961.

Pakistanis in Jordan ready to fight invaders

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Leaders and members of the Pakistani community living in the Jordan Valley have stepped forward to offer themselves as holy warriors to defend Iraq and Jordan in the event of war in the region.

At the same time, they are also appealing to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to end the non-Islamic, non-Arab military presence in his country and to settle the Gulf crisis in the Islamic tradition of brotherhood and dialogue without foreign intervention.



Amir Mohammad

The leaders, representing their respective clans which total about 8,000 to 10,000 people, are offering to volunteer "to the last man among us" to fight against the "American invaders and non-Muslims who are in the region not to help Saudi Arabia but to control the Arab and Muslim wealth — oil," according to a spokesman for the group.

"The Iraqi takeover of Kuwait is an Arab/Islamic affair," said Amir Mohammad, 50, who said he has been living in Jordan since 1970. "The Americans or anyone other than Arabs or Muslims have no business to interfere in the affair," added Mohammad, a native of Larkana in the province of Sind in Pakistan.

"We appeal to King Fahd not to allow any further violation of the sanctity of our holy shrines in Mecca and Medina by asking the non-Islamic Western forces in his country to leave," he said.

"If war is inevitable, then every one of us is willing to fight and defend Iraq and Jordan against the imperialist powers," he added. "We are volunteering to join the People's Army and to get armed to fight for the Islamic cause."

The group of four leaders, including Mohammad, better known as "Sheikh Mohammad" to the residents of Deir Alla in the Jordan Valley, represents the four distinct regions of Pakistan. The four, who have not had high education, also displayed a surprising insight into regional politics (they explained later that they were regular listeners to the Urdu services of various Asian as well as European radio stations).

The four said each spoke on behalf of his respective tribe or clan, but that their views were identical.

Mohammad Saleh Maksibulochi ("Mukhtiar Mohammad"), a Pathan from the province of Baluchistan, who lives in South Shubeh, Haj

"It is not only our sons who will fight to defend Iraq and Jordan in the event of war," added Gul H. Peshawar. "We, the generation, will happily come death as shaheed (martyr) for the cause, if we are given a chance by the Jordan government."

"We will also give opportunity if we are given one," he added. "The continuation of the oppression of Al Quds gives deep grief and pain."

All four leaders, who have been living in Jordan for decades, are urging that the dispatch of Pakistani troops to join the Arab-led multinational force to Saudi Arabia was against the wish of a majority of Pakistani people.

"Our movement made a grave engagement in its decision to send the turbaned Arabists should have asked: Why the help of the bad as, the superpower, American and Islamic presence not to justify and legitimise the presence of the Muslims in the land of our prophet (in Mecca)?"

"I would like to tell King Fahd: What you have done is giving an Israel in the Gulf as the Americans said in 73 that they would return Jerusalem to the Arabs but create another Israel in the Gulf," Kokar said.

"If Saudi Arabia is arguing that it was in any real danger of an Iraqi attack, then it should also acknowledge that any such assault would not have been tolerated by the Islamic World," added Kokar. "All Islamic countries would have joined in the defence of Saudi Arabia. There would not have been any need for the Americans or anyone else."

The four leaders, all engaged in agriculture in the Jordan Valley, said they always maintained very close contact with their families and clans back home and they believed that not more than 10 per cent of the Pakistani population support the dispatch of troops to Saudi Arabia.

"It is a decision prompted by financial and political considerations, and little thought is given to religion and the gravity of the implications of the move," said Kokar. "Despite our differences, we appreciate the honourable position adopted by non-Muslim India, which is offering food to Islamic Iraq in defiance of the United States and Britain," he added.

AMMAN (J.T.) — President of the Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) Ahmad Abu Qoura, who is chairman of the permanent committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent left Amman for Geneva to chair the meetings of the permanent committee which will start there Oct. 22.

Abu Qoura said the committee would discuss in its meetings the agenda of the 26th conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent to be held in Hungary next year.

He pointed out that he would discuss with the chairman of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) the tragic situation of Arab citizens in the occupied territories and Monday's massacre in which at least 30 Palestinians were killed.

He said he would ask the ICRC to shoulder its responsibilities in supervising the implementation of the international humanitarian law in the occupied territories, particularly Fourth Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians living under occupation.

Abu Qoura said that he would attend the two-day meeting of the executive council of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Red Crescent, Red Cross to hold talks in Geneva

League which will start also in Geneva on Oct. 23.

According to Abu Qoura, the council is scheduled to discuss relief works carried out by the league, the issue of the league's membership to the United Nations as an observer member, the league's budget and its works in cooperation with JNRCS in extending assistance to evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait.

Abu Qoura said he would meet with presidents of the Red Cross Societies which aided JNRCS in assisting the evacuees.

Singapore, Brunei send relief supplies

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore and Brunei jointly sent two plane loads of medical and relief supplies to Amman on Monday to help refugees stranded in Jordan by the Gulf crisis, a Foreign Ministry statement said. It said the two C-130s of the Singapore Air Force would be used on their return to evacuate Sri Lankan refugees who have fled to Jordan from Iraq and Kuwait. The supplies will be distributed among refugees of all nationalities.

Government stops food convoy to Iraq

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Jordanian government Monday stopped the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) from sending a convoy of 16 lorries carrying milk and food supplies to the Iraqi children pending approval from the U.N. Security Council's Sanctions Committee.

The convoy, which was to have left Monday for Baghdad carrying essential food supplies, would have been the fourth of its kind to be sent to Iraq, but the trip has been delayed until proper approval arrives, said a GUVS statement.

The Foreign Ministry in Amman said in a statement that it was holding contacts with the Sanctions Committee in New York in order to secure approval for the convoy to proceed since, it said, Jordan was committed to the sanctions imposed on Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait.

"The government has asked GUVS, which organises convoys with relief supplies to Iraq, to refrain from sending any for the time being pending the Sanctions Committee's approval," the

Foreign Ministry statement said. It said that Jordan's U.N. permanent representative Abdullah Salah would exert his best efforts in order to secure the committee's approval.

"When it started its convoy programme GUVS was motivated by humanitarian reasons and was acting in the spirit of the international declaration on the rights of the child which was approved by the World Summit for Children held in New York earlier this month," said GUVS in its statement circulated to all Arab daily newspapers in Amman.

The statement said that the World Summit for Children had approved all measures designed to provide humanitarian assistance to victims of war and natural disasters. "GUVS also believes that sanctions on Iraq do not cover food supplies, especially those intended for children and old people," the statement said.

"GUVS, which is a non-governmental organisation seeking to provide humanitarian assistance irrespective of political affiliations, condemns all attempts aimed at depriving the children of

Iraq of their basic food," the statement said.

It said that Iraq's nine million children were exposed to famine and sickness resulting from lack of proper food and the world community and various international organisations should shoulder their responsibilities to find a way of ending the sanctions imposed on these children.

The statement said that GUVS would approach the U.N. Security Council Sanctions Committee to ensure that milk and other basic food supplies continue to reach the Iraqi children.

The statement said that GUVS continued to welcome any kind of contributions from private citizens and organisations aimed at alleviating the suffering of the Iraqi children.

The statement said that GUVS chose to delay the convoy's trip so as not to embarrass the Jordanian government which is committed to the Sanctions Committee's decisions.

GUVS Executive President, Abdullah Al Khatib has scheduled a press conference Tuesday to give details about this decision and explain the situation.

WHAT'S GONG ON

- EXHIBITION**
- Open studio and workshop for Samia Zaru displaying paintings, sculptures and handicrafts. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
 - Plastic art exhibition by four Palestinian artists depicting the suffering of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation at the Jordan National Gallery, Fine Arts.
 - Exhibition entitled "Science in the Arab World" at the British Council.
 - Plastic art exhibition by Jordanian artists at the Arab Art Gallery, 1st Circle.
 - The Bani Hamida exhibition in handicrafts, weavings and quilts at the Abu Jaber Estate, Yarmouk.
 - Exhibition by Jordanian artist Omar Al Shayekh at the Royal Cultural Centre.
 - Goethe-Forest (between Tafleh and Shobak) by Sigrid Per at the Goethe Institute.
 - Arts and crafts exhibition by Jumana Awad at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

ANNOUNCING AN EXHIBITION of fine handicrafts

Bani Hamida
RUGS - QUILTS

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12-19 October 1990
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

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Cornered

ISRAEL IS its old self: Needlessly defiant, dangerously arrogant. First, and contrary to earlier reports that it would cooperate with the U.N. fact-finding mission, Shamir's right-wing government, has finally decided to reject U.N. Security Council Resolution 672 adopted in the aftermath of the massacre of Palestinians in Jerusalem last week and to refuse to cooperate with the fact-finding mission or even accept to receive it. Israel's Foreign Minister David Levy was unequivocal when he declared on Israeli Radio Sunday that the government of Israel had "unanimously rejected the decision" of the U.N. Security Council and was "determined (in) its refusal to accept such a mission." What appears to offend Israel most is the valid proposition that receiving the mission would mean, and rightly so, that Jerusalem is not Israel's legal capital and that Security Council persists in its position that Arab Jerusalem is part and parcel of the occupied Palestinian territories. In this context and against the backdrop of this most recent Israeli defiance of the Security Council, the council is dutybound to convene as a matter of high urgency with a view to adopting a follow-up resolution that aims to deal effectively with Israel's arrogance. What is at stake is the credibility of the supreme world body charged with protecting international peace and security at a time when the new international order aims to reestablish it and this is therefore no time for the Security Council to shun its solemn responsibility in the face of Israel's open rejection of its binding resolutions. Failing to act at this particular juncture would undermine the council's will to enforce its resolutions on the Kuwaiti situation and would effectively pull the rug from under the feet of the council's five permanent members which are ostensibly indulging in dedicated efforts to reestablish the council's stature. There is now no alternative but to link the Palestinian problem with the Gulf crisis because the Israeli rejection of Resolution 672 has reintroduced and reinforced that linkage whether one wished it or rejected it. To all intents and purposes, the Security Council is cornered and has to take measures against Israel, including the application of sanctions against it if it ever hopes to effectively apply its resolutions against Iraq.

The second Israeli defiance of the world in a matter of less than twenty hours is its decision to construct no less than 500 housing units in East Jerusalem to settle new Jewish emigrants. This outrageous move came less than one day after the revelation that the Israeli foreign minister had promised U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in writing that Tel Aviv would not settle any new Jewish emigrants in East Jerusalem in order to qualify for the \$400 million loan that it will receive to house Jewish emigrants from the four corners of the world. The Arab World is still awaiting Washington's reaction to this major Israeli defiance of not only the Security Council but also of the U.S. itself.

No matter which way one wants to view the latest Israeli actions, the fact stands out that they effectively undermine the Security Council's efforts to regain its stature as an effective world body as well as the U.S., which has recently embarked to resort to that council to resolve the Gulf crisis.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Al Ra'i Arabic daily on Monday launched a strong attack on British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd for issuing threats against Iraq while on a visit to Cairo. It is certain that Hurd had taken leave of his senses when he was making the threats and the warnings against Iraq at a time when everybody realises that Britain can do nothing, and does not enjoy credibility in the Arab World. Gone are the days when the British higher commissioner used to issue orders, and the colonies used to comply, and time has gone when London used to intimidate the weaker nations of the world, said the paper. Britain, which had caused so much sufferings to many developing nations and planted Israel in the midst of the Arab World, is now being transformed into a country of a third degree in the light of the emerging united Europe; but Hurd is hoping through his threats that intimidate no one to revive Britain's dying power and the senile British empire, the paper continued. Britain should be the last country in the world to speak about morals and human values and the rights of the oppressed, since it is Britain which has a long record of violating such rights, said the paper. Hurd's statements in Cairo reflect an imbalance in British policies and rationality, although they were meant to intimidate Iraq, the paper added. Hurd's statements, the paper added, can be interpreted as a show of disregard to the Arab Nation and an insult to the Arab masses. It stressed that Britain and its allies will pay dearly should they ever try to launch aggression on Iraq.

Unlike what most Arabs believed, the recent U.N. Security Council resolution in response to Israel's massacre of Palestinians in Jerusalem should be regarded as positive, since it forced Washington to voice its condemnation of Israel's malpractices, and because it motivated an angry response on the part of the Israeli government, says a columnist in Al Ra'i daily Monday. Mahmoud Al Rimawi notes that the Israeli government has now declared its refusal to allow a U.N. fact-finding mission to visit the occupied Arab lands and report on its findings to the council. Any report by any mission visiting the occupied Palestinian land would definitely point to Israel's atrocities and would urge the council to shoulder its responsibilities with regard to situation in the occupied lands, says the writer. In view of this refusal, the Arabs ought now to seek another Security Council session to deal with the negative Israeli stand and Israel's defiance to the world community, the writer suggests. He says that such a situation would open the way for demands to impose sanctions on Israel, a move which would no doubt meet with strong opposition on the part of the United States which, in turn, would have its double standard policies put to a crucial test before the world community. Such situation, the writer concludes, would only weaken Washington's position with regard to its policy towards the Gulf crisis and would open the way for efforts to reach a peaceful end to that crisis.

By John Fullerton
Reuter

CAIRO — Iraq, well-trained in Soviet strategy, is probably using deception techniques to exploit gaps in western intelligence assessments of its war readiness, military analysts say.

The United States is using a vast array of super-secret satellites and other monitoring devices in the Gulf crisis but the analysts say there are grey areas in its knowledge of Iraqi military activity.

Baghdad was likely to be using computers to pinpoint these weaknesses and employ measures taught by Soviet advisers specialising in deception.

Strategic skulduggery was high on the list of priorities in

Kremlin military doctrine and Iraq has copied the Soviet style of warfare in equipping and training its forces.

One way was to create a false impression of intense military activity in a specific area, or move fuel tanks up to what appeared to be launchers as if preparing missiles for launch.

Conspicuously establishing decontamination centres for Iraqi troops close to the border with Saudi Arabia would signal an intention to use chemical weapons.

Part of the U.S.-dominated anti-Iraqi alliance's problem in judging Iraq's war readiness was that insufficient attention had been paid to its military capability before it invaded Kuwait on August 2.

Paul Beaver, publisher of Jane's Defence Weekly, said that the effectiveness of Iraqi command and control was not enough to be known.

Another murky area was tails of logistic support, spare parts and fuel capacity of armoured forces.

Don Kerr of the International Institute of Strategic Studies said information available from open sources indicated gaps in western knowledge about Iraqi chemical weapons production.

"We don't know enough about how and where they store the chemical agents," he said.

Accuracy of Iraq's long-range missiles was another gap.

Iraqi missiles were not very precise and Baghdad, in order to limit probable errors, had established carefully-surveyed fixed launch sites at Al Rutba. Baghdad has threatened to fire these missiles at Israel in case the latter attacked.

"The Iraqis have given the accuracy of some of their missiles as .08 per cent of range. So a missile fired 1,000 km would have an accuracy of 800 metres' radius," said Kerr.

Beaver put the figure at 1,000 metres.

In these circumstances, Iraqi missiles were likely to be fired in large numbers simultaneously over shorter ranges to reduce error and aim for a big psychological impact.

Analysts concede that drawing conclusions about a state as secretive as Iraq are sometimes reached based on pocket-calculator sums, inspired guesswork and observation of its military performance in its eight-year war with Iran.

But intelligence gathering has come a long way since James Bond-type spies carrying concealed weapons and invisible ink and the launch in the 1970s of the first U.S. spy satellite named Big Bird.

Now the buzz words are ELINT (for electronic intelligence gathering), SIGINT (for communications intelligence) and imaging radar and infrared scanning satellites.

A U.S. project code-named Lacrosse used a new low-orbit satellite that could see through

cloud or at night to provide pictures of targets.

With an elliptical orbit that puts it between 200 and 500 km above earth, it could spend 60-90 minutes examining Iraqi targets.

Although Lacrosse was manoeuvrable, it could take a further 16 orbits before it was back on the same target and in that time, the analysts say, the Iraqis could do much to mislead.

The satellite's readings would have to be beamed down to earth in digital form, improved by computer, and the resulting images carefully scrutinised.

It might be a day or two before the results were on desks of the U.S. chiefs of staff. Perhaps longer.

White terror behind political opposition to de Klerk

By Rodney Pinder
Reuter

JOHANNESBURG — A parcel bomb blows up in the face of a young white computer consultant involved in work for black organisations, virtually decapitating him. Police launch a hunt for two "nice-looking" white men.

A bomb explodes outside the U.S. ambassador's home in Pretoria, causing little damage but ringing alarm bells in South Africa's diplomatic community.

A van careers through central Johannesburg and gunmen inside, firing indiscriminately, kill two young black men and a middle-aged white woman. Before she dies, the woman says she saw a white man shooting.

Whites dedicated to the maintenance of apartheid are given little chance of defeating at the ballot box President F.W. de Klerk's plans to grant political power to blacks.

The potential of the far right to derail the reform train by bomb and bullet is real, analysts say.

This year alone, white gunmen and bombers have staged as many attacks — 47 — as black guerrillas managed in the first four years of their armed struggle against white rule, says independent risk analyst Wim Booysse.

The leader of the white sup-

remacist Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), Eugene Terre Blanche, makes no secret of the fact that he is prepared to use violence to protect white interests.

"If uncivilised blacks want to kill and maim white people, we will level them with the gravel," Terre Blanche said.

Anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela accuses whites in the shadowy government security apparatus of triggering black violence in order to divide blacks and maintain minority rule. The violence claimed more than 750 lives in six weeks in townships around Johannesburg.

Police and army deny any involvement and the case is unproven. But some analysts say the government must purge the security forces of white hardliners trained to enforce apartheid laws if its reform programme is to succeed.

Booyse said in an interview more violence will follow if the government takes land from white farmers to give to blacks.

Proceeding to dismantle 300 years of white supremacy, the government will next year scrap laws dividing South Africa into white and black regions. Whites, outnumbered five to one, occupy 80 per cent of the land, with blacks in the poorer parts.

If land is taken from whites to satisfy black demands, "these 47 acts of revolutionary terror will look like a kindergarten game," Booyse predicted.

Although the government has tried to reassure white farmers that no one will be forced to sell, many are unconvinced. Some 400 whites from Transvaal province gathered in Pretoria last week and angrily warned the government that it would forcibly integrate the land at its peril.

At the meeting, loudly cheered by the farmers, was Andries Treurnicht, leader of the pro-apartheid conservative party.

The party, the official parliamentary opposition, claims to be picking up support daily from whites disaffected by de Klerk's reforms. Whether that matters much is moot as there is unlikely to be another whites-only election.

Some analysts say the Conservative Party probably holds the hearts of white South Africans with its vision of an all-white state, but they question whether minds have followed.

"The majority wish they could live in a Conservative Party world, but recognise it's not feasible," said University of Cape Town political scientist Robert Schrire.

The party is making its influ-

Shamir urges defiance of U.N.

(Continued from page 1)

Perez de Cuellar said Monday he would wait to hear from Israel before deciding whether to send a team to probe the massacre.

"First, I have to listen to what the ambassador of Israel tells me," Perez de Cuellar told reporters.

Settlement plans

Israel has stepped up plans to expand Jewish settlement in Arab Jerusalem only days after assuring the United States it would not settle Soviet Jews outside the 1967 "green line."

The announcement by Housing Minister Ariel Sharon was bound to further anger Palestinians. It also reflected hardening Israeli reaction to questioning around the world, including in the United States, of Israel's "assurances" of the Arab part of the city it occupied in the war.

Levy, to secure \$400 million in U.S. government loan guarantees for immigrant housing, wrote Oct. 2 guaranteeing "the government of Israel's policy is not to direct or settle Soviet Jews beyond the green line."

A top aide to Shamir, Yossi Ben Aharon, told Israeli Radio the government might not honour the pledge

which would limit Jewish settlement in Arab Jerusalem.

The immigration committee headed by Sharon said Sunday it had decided to encourage more immigration to Jerusalem by giving it top priority for new house building.

"We never took on ourselves a commitment not to build in Jerusalem," Sharon told army radio Monday in defence of his building plans.

His committee wanted to build as many as 15,000 new housing units in Jerusalem, offer bigger mortgages for immigrants settling in the city and give contractors 100 per cent guarantees for apartment purchases.

Sharon said Israel's "annexation" of Arab Jerusalem meant the city on longer had a green line — the 1967 limit of the Jewish state — and Israel's assurance to Washington applied only to the West Bank which is under military occupation.

"In the matter of Jerusalem, I said again this is the government of Israel's position... to strengthen the Jewish settlement in Jerusalem and in Jerusalem we will settle Israelis and olim (immigrants)," Sharon said.

Some 150,000 Palestinians live in the east of the city, while at least 350,000 Jews are housed in West Jerusalem and suburbs encroaching the Arab areas.

Dumas harshly criticises Israel

(Continued from page 1)

He said the United Nations team members would be "reasonable people, and not receiving them could give the impression, in effect, that Israel does not intend to conform to the decisions of the United Nations."

Expounding President Francois Mitterrand's views on the Gulf issue, Dumas stressed there was no question of "substituting" the U.N. policy with a "magic solution" to all the problems of the Middle East.

He said Mitterrand's recent speech at the United Nations had been followed by "insidious" comments by certain news media, which he did not

name, to the effect that France was doing it alone.

But he said once Kuwait was restored to the rule of the emir, Sheikh Jabar Al Ahmad Al Sabah, there was no reason why an international conference should not be held to discuss overall security issues in the region including the Palestinian issue.

Mitterrand suggested in his speech that a resolution of the Gulf crisis might be followed by initiatives to solve the problems of Lebanon and the Palestinians.

But he reiterated the West's insistence that Iraq withdraw from Kuwait and free all Westerners before negotiations took place.

Hrawi to unify Beirut

(Continued from page 1)

About 300 people were killed and 1,000 wounded in the six-hour battle which ended nearly two years of defiance by Aoun against a Lebanese government.

Paris granted him asylum but the Lebanese government is demanding he be turned over for trial.

Minister Edmond Rizk was to prepare a file about Aoun's "crimes" since he took power as head of an interim military government from former President Amin Gemayel in 1988.

Heavily armed French guards ringing the embassy only allowed diplomats in. Telephone calls for Aoun were rejected.

Jordan needs aid not pledges

(Continued from page 1)

different" from the figures compiled and submitted by the King.

"Jordan's record proves that it does not inflate figures," he said. "Of course, one can argue a bit on this figure and a bit on the other in any kind of situation, but I believe the Jordanian figures are pretty accurate."

Ripert, who also met with a group of Jordanian businessmen at his own initiative, said he had no doubts that Jordan was adhering to the sanctions against Iraq although such verification was strictly not part of his mission.

The U.N. envoy said he was planning to finalise his report on Jordan after meeting a team of World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) officials in New York Tuesday and submit it to Perez de Cuellar by Thursday. The World Bank and IMF team is on its way to Amman for talks on Jordan's economic situation.

Ripert said he did not know what specific action the United Nations Sanctions Committee would adopt and whether it would set up a group of donor countries and U.N. officials to handle the issue. "My mission is to assess the situation in Jordan and make recommendations to the Secretary-

General," said Ripert, a French national who retired from active U.N. service in February 1989 after serving as director of economic development and international cooperation.

Ripert's emphasis on urgency of aid to Jordan comes at a time when a group of wealthy countries appears to be undecided over what course of practical action to take to extend further assistance to countries hit by the Gulf crisis sanctions on Iraq. The group, which met in Washington last week, will meet again in Rome in November, and Ripert, although not directly referring to the group, voiced concern that "bureaucratic procedures" might delay the process of the actual delivery of assistance at a time Jordan can ill-afford such delays.

Jordan has received pledges of about \$400 million from Germany and Japan — two countries which have offered to help the so-called "frontline" states of Jordan, Egypt and Turkey which are worst hit by Gulf crisis and the sanctions. But less than 50 per cent of it is in long-term soft loans with the rest under shorter terms. The European Community (EC), which said it would offer about \$2 billion in assistance to the three countries, has not made any specific allocations.

Gorbachev wins Nobel Prize

(Continued from page 1)

of the award came with Gorbachev's foreign policy under bitter attack in parliament from conservatives.

There was little sign it could stem the tide of waning popular support or give new impetus to his reform programme.

Top-ranking colleagues were lavish in their congratulations for what Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze called "this great event."

Arkady Maslennikov, former Gorbachev spokesman and now a senior parliamentary official, said the prize would be welcomed by all Soviet people who appreciated their leader's great personal contribution to shaping a safer world.

But on the streets of Moscow ordinary people reacted with indifference and some even with anger, demanding whether the prize would change their lives or reduce the shortage of basic goods.

"That's all very well, but what does it have to do with me when I can't find any milk?" asked one Soviet worker in his fifties, turning on his heel.

"You foreigners, you don't understand what is happening here. You think he is wonderful but all he is doing is trying to save the communist system. You should live like we have to live," said Irina, a 50-year-old school teacher.

U.S. President George Bush said Gorbachev was a "courageous force" for peaceful change.

"He has brought historically significant change, both political and economic, to the Soviet Union and to Eastern Europe," Bush said in a statement.

"President Mikhail Gorbachev has been a courageous force for peaceful change in the world," Bush said. "East-West relations hold greater promise for peace and world stability today than at any time in the last 45 years."

Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto fights back as the underdog

Malcolm Davidson
Reuter

ISLAMABAD — "God help Pakistan," Benazir Bhutto comes back as one of the architects of her premier's dismissal. Divine intervention may be required.

Despite onslaught against the Bhutto family in the courts and at the hearings, her Pakistan People's Party (PPP) might emerge victorious on October 24, more than last time, political analysts say.

Caretaker Minister Ghulam Mustafa II, installed after Bhutto's dismissal on August 6, is publicly confident that the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) and its allies claim an overall majority.

"We will win comfortably, very comfortably," he reportedly said at his official residence overlooking the capital this week.

But Bhutto, having by a series of court cases against her and the arrest this week of her husband Asif Ali Zardari, is campaigning hard in the way she knows best — as the underdog.

It was a role she played to full before the 1988 poll after being persecuted for years under military President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq until he died in a plane crash.

Speaking at a rally in her hometown Karachi on Thursday night she vowed not to be pressured and offered her 34-year-old son Bilawal for arrest.

"I am proud of my husband and it will also be a matter of pride if my Bilawal is arrested for the restoration of democracy," she told the crowd.

Zardari was arrested in connection with a kidnapping and two banking cases. He is being held in police custody.

Bhutto herself faces four charges of abusing power during her 20 months in office. If convicted she could be barred from the elections and disqualified from public office.

Party workers say she could win at least 10 more than the 93 seats the PPP won in 1988. That would not be enough for a major-

ity in the 217-seat national assembly but would make the PPP the largest minority and impossible to ignore.

The IDA and its allies tried to keep the anti-Bhutto vote intact by putting up a single candidate, but inter-party quarrels have made that impossible in many seats.

"They (the government) are already trying to construct some new coalitions but they would be foolish to assume that the PPP is not doing the same," newspaper editor Malecha Lodhi said.

Lodhi and some diplomats say the possibility remains that the elections will be postponed by the government with the backing of Pakistan's powerful military.

"I am still not convinced the elections will take place. It is too close a call and I do not know that they can take the chance," she said.

"I imagine elections will take place although I can't help having a nagging feeling that something might intrude," a senior European diplomat said.

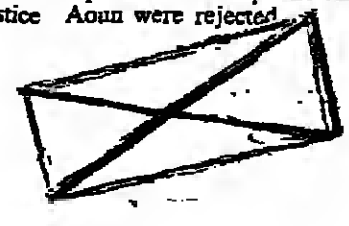
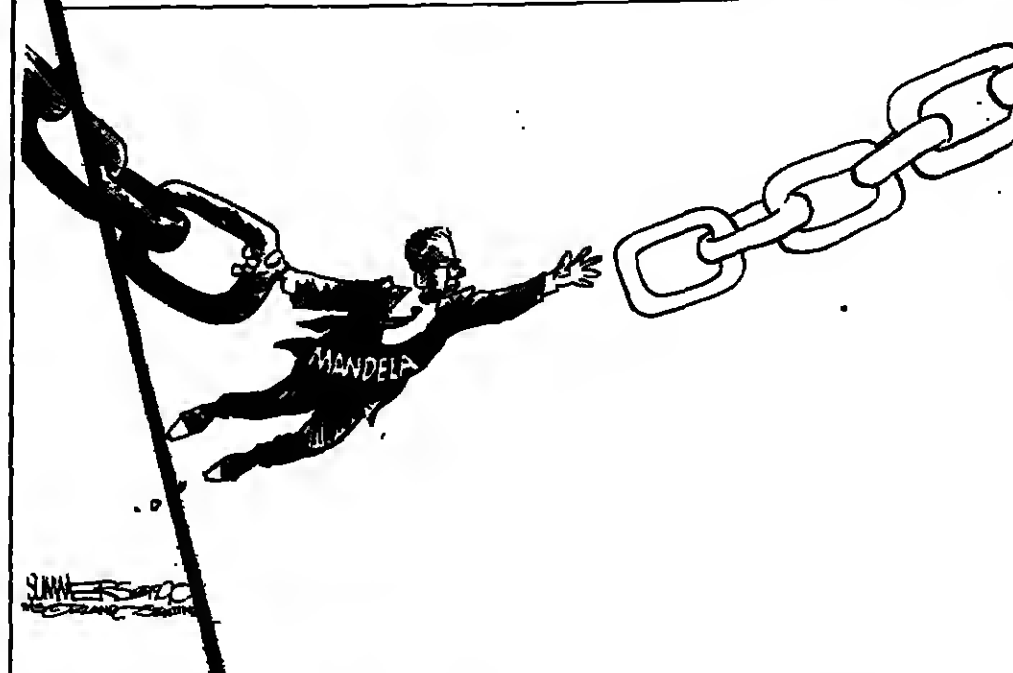
Some people argue President Ishaq Khan made a mistake in announcing an election date when he sacked Bhutto for allegations of corruption and abuse of power because it boxed him in.

Bhutto has made Ishaq Khan, a 75-year-old man who has spent most of his life as a bureaucrat, her main target at rallies up and down the country.

She reviles him as a stubborn old man who should have stayed above the fray as head of state but instead descended into politics. If she wins he will have to quit, she says.

But one of Ishaq Khan's supporters said in an interview the president was unmoved by the attacks and had a mission to cleanse Pakistani politics of its pervasive corruption.

"He is honestly convinced that he is doing a great service to Pakistan," the caretaker minister said in an interview. "I think that he will be remembered for introducing the concept of accountability that will be the verdict of history."



Food for the future: The dangers and the promise

WFP Feature

ON Oct. 16, 1990, over 150 countries throughout the world will observe World Food Day. Launched a decade ago from its headquarters in Rome, Italy, by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), World Food Day calls for worldwide effective action to end the triple scourge of poverty, hunger and malnutrition.

This year, governments and non-governmental groups, men and women, farmers, foresters and fishermen, political leaders, opinion makers and the media will focus on the vital challenge of providing food for one billion more people by the year 2000, without depleting Earth's precious resources.

As powerful currents of change in a fast-moving world overturn governments and shift people's values and perceptions, World Food Day will place before the international community the dangers and the promise of that accelerated change.

Arms or food

Approximately 51 million people in the world will die this year. Over one-third will die needlessly, deprived of the basic essentials for a healthy life. FAO estimates that 500 million people are chronically undernourished. Most of these people live in the rural areas of the developing world.

Every minute, 15 children die for want of food, clean water and simple, low-cost medical care — and every minute the world's military machine swallows an estimated US\$2 million from public budgets. Spending on armaments is particularly heavy in the less developed world. Measured by per capita income, military expenditures in the poorer countries have increased twice as fast as living standards since 1960.

A question of equity

The low-income, food-deficit countries account for 60 per cent of the world's population — and

most of the chronically hungry people.

Earlier this year, FAO's Committee on World Food Security warned that the poorer countries of the southern hemisphere are facing "an insufferable predicament." That predicament can only be overcome by the combined efforts of the entire international community. But the politics of development are often cruel. They ask much of those who have little and relatively little of those who have so much.

Inequity in incomes, low prices of commodities in agricultural trade that benefit the importing countries of the developed north, increased protectionism, coupled with demands from the financing agencies for inappropriate agricultural adjustments, are all exerting a heavy human and environmental toll throughout the developing world.

At the end of 1989, the external debt of the Third World countries stood at US\$ 1,290 thousand million — crippling their ability to import the food they need or provide the inputs that would increase their own agricultural production. Conservation becomes a luxury as natural resources are exploited to generate badly-needed foreign exchange.

An interdependent world

The vital challenge of providing food for future generations is one that faces north and south alike. As the Berlin Wall comes down, it should not be replaced by an invisible, but equally damaging wall between the rich countries and those that are still poor.

The well-being of the office worker in England or France is closely tied to the future of the peasant cultivator in Kenya, the fishing family in southern India, and the forester in Ecuador. We face a common future in an increasingly interdependent world.

Outcry and alarm

The onslaught on Earth's

ecosystems by the countries of north and south, east and west is increasingly the subject of public outcry and alarm.

The reduction of the ozone layer, global warming, acid rain, polluted waters, rising oceans, and chemical poisoning are the side effects of global industrialisation that has increased 50-fold during this century. Eighty per cent of the growth has taken place in the past 40 years. In the rich world, patterns of consumption and industrial expansion have far exceeded environmental limits.

In the developing countries, ill-conceived development projects often degrade the land and increase the suffering of the poorest of the rural poor. The poor themselves deplete thin soils, over-graze fragile grasslands and slash and burn the forests — moving on when nature has nothing more to give. They destroy the very resources that give life, not out of ignorance but merely to survive another day.

Sustainable development

Providing food for the future, while protecting the air, soils and waters of Planet Earth, is defined by technologists and scientists as a problem of "sustainable development." In simple terms it means providing for basic human needs today without destroying Earth's fragile ecosystems on which our lives — and the lives of future generations depend.

The United Nations will hold an international conference on environment and development in Brazil in 1992. In April next year, at the joint invitation of the government of the Netherlands and FAO, over 200 international experts from throughout the world will meet in Holland. They will discuss and develop new approaches for sustainable agriculture presently being prepared by FAO. These key strategies, and the results of the meeting, are expected to make an important contribution to the U.N. conference in Brazil.

The goat-herd and the computer

As the world races towards the 21st century, it is a question of adapt or fail. This may involve an element of risk, but there is a place in the development process for both goat-herd and computer. At a special moment in time, FAO is grasping a unique opportunity to make use of frontier technologies while still respecting grass-roots traditions and experiences of the past.

The latest in audio-visual extension tools stimulate communication between rural communities, and between those communities and their governments. Expressing and communicating their felt needs reduces the sense of fatalism and the silence of the rural poor and increases their participation in their own social and economic development.

Help from space

A satellite communications system pioneered by FAO is used by the organisation's Remote Sensing Unit to evaluate prospects for agricultural production in wide areas of the developing world.

On the second floor of FAO's Rome headquarters, the antenna

dish of Africa Real-time Environmental Monitoring using Imaging Satellites (ARTEMIS) continuously receives data on vegetation and rainfall across Africa, and vegetation in the Near East and Southwest Asia.

Relayed from space by METEOSAT, the European meteorological satellite in equatorial orbit over Africa, and from the American NOAA-11 satellite in polar orbit, the mass of information is stored in a computer with a capacity of one Gigabyte — 1,000 million information units. The data is used by FAO's Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) as it monitors the world's ever changing supply and demand for basic foods, and alerts governments in countries where life-threatening shortages are imminent.

World watch on animals

In Europe alone, 9 out of 119 known native cattle breeds have disappeared. Another 44 are rare or nearly extinct. In total, more than 240 breeds of horses, cattle, pigs, sheep and goats are endangered.

In cooperation with FAO, the Global Animal Genetic Data Bank at the European Association of Animal Production (EAAP) has been enlarged to handle computerised data from all over the world. A flow of information from the Regional Animal Gene Banks set up by FAO in Ethiopia, Senegal, China, India, Argentina, Brazil and Mexico permits the Global Data Bank in Hannover, Germany, to regularly appraise the status of existing breeds and to update its "World Watch" list of endangered species.

Monitoring the tropical forests

The tropical forests contain at least 80,000 species of edible plants — none of them yet cultivated. But hundreds of unique plant and animal species are being lost forever. Recent figures released by FAO indicate that deforestation in the tropics has accelerated from 11.3 million hectares a year in 1980 to 17 million hectares a year in 1990.

In 1989, FAO began to assess how much tropical forest cover was lost during the past decade and to set up global forest monitoring system for the future. High resolution satellite images are being used to assess changes in forest cover over the past ten years in sample areas. Low resolution satellite data, correlated to the high resolution images and augmented by material from forestry units at the local level, will enable FAO to make an estimate of how much tropical forest remains at the end of 1990 and to make projections to the end of the century.

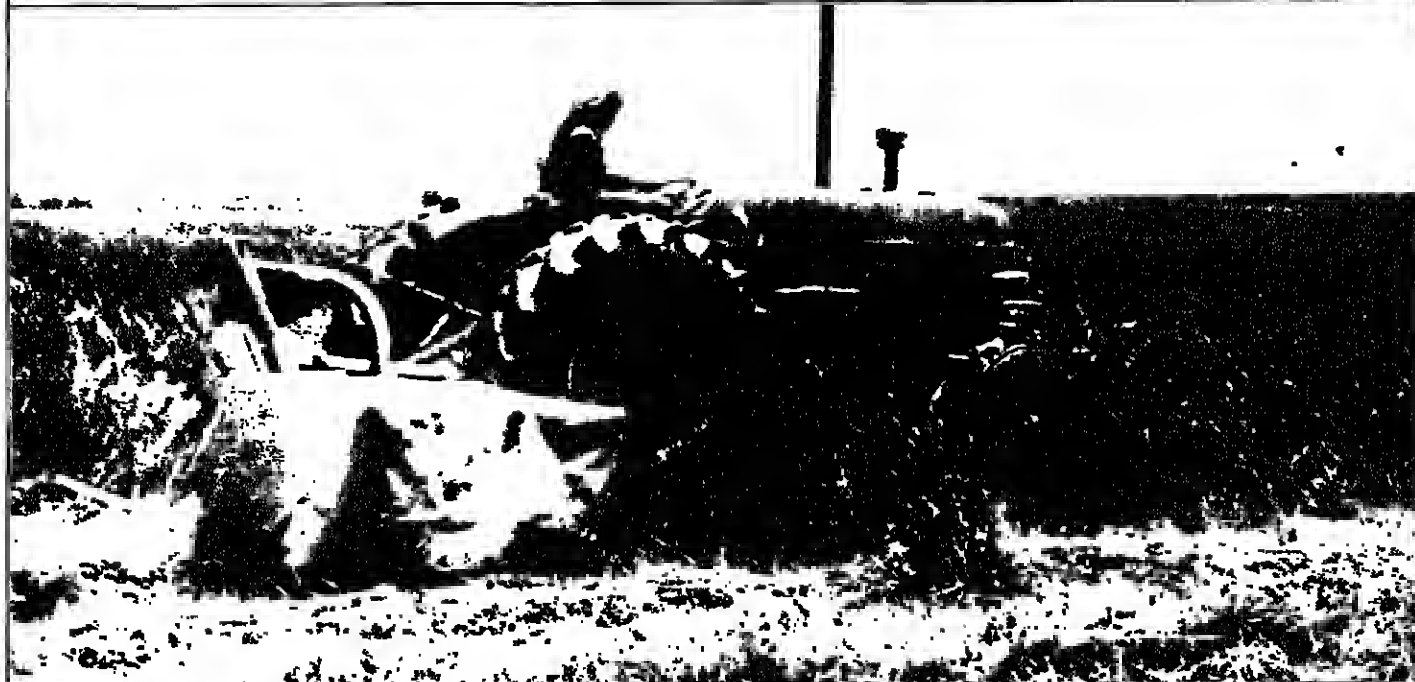
The data will be computerised for easy storage, retrieval and analysis, and the advanced methodology being used will be shared with the international community.

Saving Africa's land

Africa's land degradation is proceeding so fast that few countries can hope to achieve sustainable agriculture in the foreseeable future. At its Regional Conference for Africa held in Morocco this year, FAO warned that



Jordanian farmers have come a long way in their farming techniques: from the horse-driven ploughs (above) to modern-day tractors.



more than a third of Africa's land is threatened by rapidly-moving desertification, and more than 37,000 square kilometres of forest are being destroyed every year.

To help governments save the continent's ecological base, FAO has drawn up a scheme for the Conservation and Rehabilitation of African Lands. The international scheme calls for improved land use practices, development of national institutions essential to implement long-term programmes and, above all, participation of those who use the land.

The silent people

The rural poor have been called "the silent people." They are the subsistence farmers, peasant cultivators and small-scale fishermen whose harvest failed, whose boat sank, or whose hopes were flooded out. Often qualified in economic terms as "low income" or "disadvantaged," the rural poor are isolated, vulnerable and powerless.

In 1979, FAO's member nations drew up a "Peasants' Charter": a blueprint for transforming rural life in the developing countries in all its aspects. The Charter stressed that rural development must be tackled by action at the village level, through sound development policies — and by the realisation of a drastic change in the world's economic order.

In striving to achieve sustainable development, priority is given to the human beings whose lives depend on that development. FAO's field programmes and projects seek special support for the landless labourers, fishermen, rural women, rural youth

and the indigenous tillers of the land.

But the increasing degradation of the soils, rivers and oceans is one of the main factors forcing these rural men and women — and often their very young children — to migrate to the over-crowded, disease and drug-ridden slums and shanty towns proliferating around the cities of the developing world. They leave the countryside seeking a better future but often find despair.

Key decisions

Top back up its action projects in the rural areas of the developing world, and to promote binding international agreements and conventions for the protection of Earth's resources. FAO's governing bodies have passed many key decisions. To mention but a few:

In 1983, the "International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources" was established with the aim of ensuring the sound conservation, use and availability of precious — and rapidly disappearing — plant species. Last year, FAO was the first international body to recognise the right of the Third World's farmers to the genetic value of the indigenous crops that they have conserved, improved and made available to mankind. A resolution on "Farmers' Rights" called for conservation, management and use of plant genetic resources "for the benefit of present and future generations of farmers."

The 1989 conference of 158 member states formally recognised the growing pressures on the world's animal genetic re-

sources. Delegates urged the establishment of a Commission on Animal Genetic Resources, an international fund, and a legal instrument to protect endangered species under the general provisions of the International Convention on Biological Diversity being developed by the United Nations.

Finding the funds

An increasing number of international governmental and non-governmental groups are exploring ways to stimulate commitment of the financial resources needed to support sustainable development. To achieve the goal of enough food for all, the industrialised countries will have to increase the flow of capital, as well as environmentally sound technology, to the less developed world.

Bilateral and multilateral funding agencies are urged to ensure that adherence to the concept of sustainable development becomes a prerequisite for the financing of programmes and projects. Most particularly, the development banks are pressed to ensure full consideration of the environmental consequences of their lending operations, something that has been largely neglected in the past.

Debt-for-nature

To pay off their overwhelming external debts, some Third World countries are adopting "Debt-for-nature" swaps.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Costa Rica was burdened with a soaring national debt. In 1989, with the help of Nature Conservancy in Washington D.C., and Solomon

Brothers, the American investment bankers, the government of Sweden bought some of that national debt from the original lending institutions at the bargain rate of 13 cents on the dollar. In exchange, the Central Bank of Costa Rica agreed to fund the 210,000 acre Guanacaste National Park and to set aside money to protect other valuable land.

The now thriving national park, an ecological treasure, contains more species of plants, insects and animals than all of Europe and North America combined.

The road to survival

To achieve a prosperous, just and secure world, with sufficient food for the future, may not be a utopian dream but the road is paved with dangers as well as promise.

Worldwide exploitation of the environment is underscored by an increasing indifference to the right to the healthy and productive life of millions of the world's poor.

Alarming statistics attract attention for an instant. But they are not enough. The judicious use of Planet Earth's resources to better the lives of millions today, while ensuring the quality of life of future generations, will require a massive shift in moral and social objectives, and an awakening of political will.

FAO's director-general has warned: "Humanity is not going to find the road to survival and well-being unless it can free itself from the dictatorship of the present and turn its mind and hands towards the goal of a lasting future."



His Majesty King Hussein annually leads Jordanians in Arbor Day to plant trees, including fruit trees.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

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Jordan Times

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Probe begins into Nannini crash

SIENA, Italy (R) — Magistrates have launched an inquiry into allegations that Formula One driver Alessandro Nannini was piloting his helicopter without a licence when it crashed at the weekend, a judicial spokesman said Monday.

Nannini, whose right forearm was severed in the crash near his parents' villa outside the Tuscan city of Siena, was recovering in hospital after surgeons took more than nine hours to sew the limb back on. Doctors said Monday his condition was satisfactory.

A spokesman for deputy state prosecutor Nicola Marini said Nannini's friend Giuseppe Brancado, one of the four men on board the helicopter, had reported immediately after the accident that Nannini was at the controls when it crashed Friday.

Brancado has denied making

the allegation and injured pilot Francesco de Liguoro reportedly said after the crash that he himself had landed the helicopter. De Liguoro's condition was too poor to allow questioning by investigators Monday.

The Benetton driver was thrown out of the new French-built helicopter which he had bought only a few days before. His severed arm was found several metres away.

Doctors said it was still far too early to tell whether Nannini would regain the full use of his arm or race again.

Relatives said the driver avoided discussing whether he would be able to return to the track. They said he told them jokingly: "Eveo if I do't race again I've got enough money to do something else."

His sister, pop singer Gianna

Nannini, told reporters: "NO-body can say today that Alessandro won't race again. You don't know him as well as I do, I've got a lot of confidence in his strength of will."

Nannini, a veteran of 77 Grand Prix races, is seventh in the World Drivers' Championship with two races to go and had been enjoying his best season in Formula One.

Herbert replaces Donnelly

Meanwhile British motor racing driver Johnny Herbert was named by Lotus Monday to replace the injured Martin Donnelly for the 1991 Formula One season.

Herbert will also step in for the final two races of this season following Donnelly's near-fatal crash during practice for the

Spanish Grand Prix last month. Lotus officials said they had waited for an improvement in Donnelly's condition before making an announcement. He has yet to regain full consciousness but doctors said Friday he was breathing without the aid of a ventilator.

Herbert, 26, was himself seriously injured in a Formula 3000 race at Brands Hatch in 1988, a week after being asked by Lotus to stand in for their regular drivers during official tyre-testing at Monza.

He suffered severe leg injuries but recovered to finish fourth in his debut Grand Prix in Brazil last year.

Herbert said: "My thoughts are with my friend Martin and my hopes are for his full recovery. If I can get any points in the last two races, it will be for him."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Brondby wins Danish league title

COPENHAGEN (R) — Brondby won the Danish Soccer League title for the fourth time in six years Sunday, a 1-0 win over Kobenhavn Boldklub giving them an unbeatable lead in the first division. Bent Christensen, the division's top marksman, scored in the 65th minute. Brondby, who meet Hungary's Ferencvaros in the second round of the UEFA Cup next week, hold a nine-point lead over 1903.

Prost criticises Mansell

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — French auto racer Alain Prost, the defending Formula-1 champion, criticised the attitude of his Ferrari teammate Nigel Mansell, in an interview published in the Rio newspaper O Globo. "Mansell doesn't perform, he doesn't work at being a good pilot," Prost told the newspaper. "While I do the work, he prefers to rest and play golf. Prost also backed off previous statements that he definitely planned to retire in 1992. "If I'm well physically, if I still feel capable of winning, I might stay another two or three years," the three-time world champion said. "I think it's a sin to not use my experience in the car future." Prost is in second place in the 1990 Formula-1 standings, nine points behind Brazil's Ayrton Senna with just two races remaining to the season. Senna can clinch his second world title by finishing ahead of Prost in either race — the Oct. 21 Japan Grand Prix and the Australian Grand Prix, set for early December. Prost told the newspaper that Senna has an 80 per cent chance of winning the title, but added that he hasn't lost hope. "The title isn't lost — going to fight for it until the last instant — but it's very difficult for me," he said.

Romanian wins Ireland road race

DUBLIN, Ireland (AP) — Romania's Iulia Negura broke clear of France's Larrieu-Smith of the United States to win the eighth IAAF women's 15-kilometre road race world championship Sunday. The 23-year-old Romanian was timed in 50 minutes, 12 seconds. The 37-year-old American finished three seconds behind, followed by Huandi Zhong of China, the runner up in last year's championship.

Mota wins Great London Race

LONDON (AP) — World and Olympic marathon champion Rosa Mota of Portugal broke away from Norway's Grete Waitz to win the 10-kilometre Great London run Sunday. Waitz, a nine-time winner of the New York Marathon, kept pace with Mota for the first four kilometres. But the Portuguese runner broke away and won by 250 metres. Mota was timed in 32 minutes, 49 seconds. The event, Britain's first all-women's road race, attracted some 4,000 runners in its inaugural year.

Manila not to scrap S.E. Asian Games

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — President Corazon Aquino Monday rejected an opposition call to scrap next year's South East Asian Games in Manila because of the country's worsening economy. "Cancelling the South East Asian Games would be the wrong approach to helping the economy," Mrs. Aquino said in a statement. "The South East Asian Games can generate tourism and investment inflows far beyond the cost of holding them here." In a statement Sunday, opposition Rep. Rodolfo Albano suggested foregoing the games, scheduled in November 1991, because the country cannot afford them. "The games are expected to cost some 300 million pesos (\$12 million), a gargantuan amount to be spent during these times of crisis, and which would, if so spent, betray the government's distorted sense of priorities in this time of economic difficulty," Albano said.

Canadian boxer knocks out Italian

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Flyweight Marty O'Donnell of Canada landed a first round knockout punch Sunday to beat Vincenzo Gigliotti of Italy in the semi-finals of the VI World Amateur Boxing Tournament in Lima. More than 200 athletes from 33 countries are participating in the week-long tournament that began Saturday.

Bebeto scores after 4-month absence

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilian international striker Bebeto celebrated his first appearance for four months with a spectacular goal in the Brazilian soccer championship. Bebeto, whose last match was for Brazil in the World Cup against Costa Rica on June 16, scored directly from a free-kick to help his club Vasco Da Gama to a 3-0 victory over crisis-torn Internacional Rio Grande Do Sul. Bebeto, one of the highest-paid players in Brazil, had been recovering from a leg injury suffered during a World Cup training session in Italy. Vasco's other goals were scored by Luciano and Bismarck.

Players from U.K. lower divisions become unlikely targets for German clubs

LEIPZIG (R) — Seasoned soccer professionals from the lower divisions in England and Scotland may become the unlikely targets for East German clubs in their battle to survive following German unification.

Deprived of the state cash they received under Communist rule, struggling East German sides have suffered an exodus of their best players westwards since the fall of the Berlin Wall less than a year ago.

With difficult times ahead against rich Bundesliga clubs in next season's all-German league, Gunter Boehme, coach of regular European campaigners Lokomotiv Leipzig, believes relatively cheap players from Britain may prove to be beneficial.

"Players from the second, third and fourth divisions are very interesting," Boehme said. "They could fit into our game. They battle and work hard."

The thought of players from Huddersfield, Darlington or Queen of the South being persuaded to pack their bags and head for Leipzig or Dresden may seem bizarre.

But the world of East German soccer has been turned upside down by the political events of the last year.

American World Cup player Paul Caligiuri is already earning his living playing for Hansa Rostock. To a seasoned professional's eye, the challenge of life in East German soccer may not seem so far removed from the English fourth division.

It will certainly not be an easy life for a few years yet. Lokomotiv Leipzig, who just three years ago reached the European Cup Winners' Cup final, are on the brink of financial collapse. The club are hunting for sponsors to survive.

Providing backers are found, Boehme, with limited cash, knows he will still need to search everywhere to persuade players to come to play.

Boehme and his 19 players have already received their redundancy letters from the former East German National Railway which employed them and gave the club its name. The club only has enough money to pay the players wages until next June.

"There will be thousands of people laid off in the company. When people lose their jobs like that you can't really ask them to keep on soccer players, can you?" Boehme said.

"We are looking for sponsors

but it is very difficult to get them at the moment. The soccer problem runs parallel to the economic crisis. We all need a new beginning."

The new beginning is supposed to start next season when the top two clubs from the East German Oberliga join the Bundesliga with six others going in the second division.

The problem is that most of East Germany's top players, lured by attractive salaries, have already gone West to Bundesliga clubs. The traffic eastwards has been limited to a trickle of players who failed to make it big in the West.

"High-class goods came from the East, rubbish from the West," one scout described the transfers.

So East German clubs may start looking to new and unusual places for experienced and motivated players as they struggle to find their feet in a united Germany.

"We can't compete with the money in the Bundesliga. We will look for players nearby in countries like Poland and Czechoslovakia who will not demand such high wages," Boehme said.

"I have not looked closely at the wages in Britain's lower divisions but I think they will not be on the same level as the Bundesliga. We might persuade some players to come here."

"They have the carrot that they would have the chance to display their skills in front of Bundesliga's more glamorous sides and maybe get picked up by them later."

Since former England international Kevin Keegan moved successfully to Hamburg in the late 1970s, several British players have managed to survive in German soccer, including Scottish internationals Murdoch MacLeod and Alan McNally.

But if the lower division players decide to take up the challenge, they will be surprised to see the modest conditions at East German clubs whose names were known throughout Europe.

Apart from their 1-0 defeat by Dutch side Ajax Amsterdam in the 1987 Cup Winners' Cup final, Lokomotiv reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Cup in 1974.

In those heady days some 80,000 fans would pack on to the terraces at their ground. Now, with high unemployment in eastern Germany, the Leipzig club is lucky to get more than 4,000 through the turnstiles.

Fernandez, Platini at odds over national team selection

PARIS (R) — Differences between midfielder Luis Fernandez and national team boss Michel Platini have clouded the euphoria over France's 2-1 defeat of Czechoslovakia in a European Soccer Championship qualifying match.

Fernandez, a former colleague of Platini's in the magical midfield quartet of the great French sides of the 1980s, was unhappy at being used only as a substitute against Czechoslovakia and demanded a guarantee of a team place.

Platini said he would meet Fernandez to discuss the matter soon but insisted he saw the 31-year-old Fernandez as more valuable to the team over 45 rather than 90 minutes.

Fernandez came on after 52 minutes Saturday and galvanised an uninspired French team, then drawing 0-0, to produce a brilliant second half display.

"If by chance Michel Platini selects me to play against Albania next month, I will ask him for guarantees," Fernandez said after the match.

"We had such a flood of injuries before the match, I thought I deserved to be in the team... at my age I have no desire to come into the French squad to sit on the bench, even if I think I can play on for four or five years."

"But I have nothing at all against Michel Platini who is someone I have listened to, respected and appreciated for a long time."

Platini said: "Luis is no longer 20 years old. But I knew I could count on him for 45 minutes and he proved it once again."

"If he understands my way of thinking, he will be back. If not... But there is no animosity between us and I will meet him soon to talk about it."

Real Madrid in doldrums but Atletico Madrid, Seville win

MADRID (R) — Real Madrid team was jeered off the pitch by a crowd of 72,300 after a dismal 0-0 home draw against lowly Logrones pushed them down to third place in the league.

"We lost a point we should have won," the league champions' Welsh coach John Toshack said.

"We posed no threat in the first half and although we dominated towards the end the goal just didn't come."

Toshack's experiment of putting striker Emilio Butraguen in the role of midfield general failed to pay off and Real were unable to create any real chances.

Despite substituting Yugoslav defender Podrag Spasic with Adolfo Aldana and replacing Romanian midfielder George Hagi with Sebastian Losada, Real could not improve their game.

Logrones, who last season held Real to a 3-3 draw in Madrid's

Santiago Bernabeu Stadium, rose one position to sixth.

Austrian striker Antoo Polster scored a hat-trick as Seville moved up one place to third with a 4-0 away win over Tenerife.

The fourth goal came from Uruguayan midfielder Pablo Bengoechea.

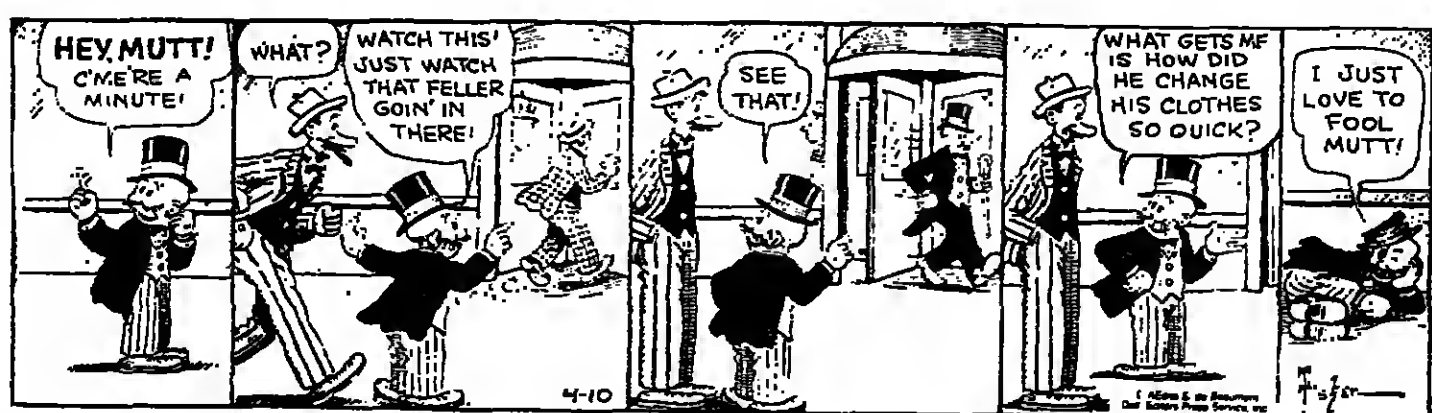
In an eagerly awaited debut with Atletico Madrid, German midfielder Bernd Schuster made a solid contribution to the team's 2-1 away win over Sporting Gijon.

It was Atletico's first victory in five games and their first win at Gijon for seven years.

Striker Juan Sahas picked up a corner from Schuster to head home the first goal in the 62nd minute and Austrian striker Gerhard Rodas scored from a long pass from the German in the 6th.

The home goal was scored by Bulgarian Georgi Iordakov three minutes before the end.

Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY OCTOBER 16, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Do not let today that can in anyway confuse or mislead others. Be straightforward and don't attempt to sidestep any issue. Avoid one who has a tendency to be dramatic in action.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Difficulty in reconciling some usual standpoint and some new ones that attract you require more than usual intelligent thought and handling.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You may think by getting rid of one obligation of a practical nature and committing yourself to some new unusual project you can make sensible action.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You want to change from one you have known for a long time to a new person of interest that attracts and fascinates you but do nothing quickly.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A tug of war within yourself between going along with a present unsatisfactory condition or breaking loose for the new should not be resolved just yet.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have to make the decision whether to go along with some friend in a matter or to do what an attachment to whom you are tied down wants.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have both home matters of importance as well as those of a more worldly nature to take care of and need to carefully schedule your time to be able to do so.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You are tied down to concerns at your usual haunts and it is necessary to finish them before you go off to some interesting new odd condition.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You've got some practical interests that have been pending for sometime to take care of before you get into that new materialistic venture.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Whatever you have in mind of a personal nature needs some aid from one who is more in touch with current conditions and formulas that you are.

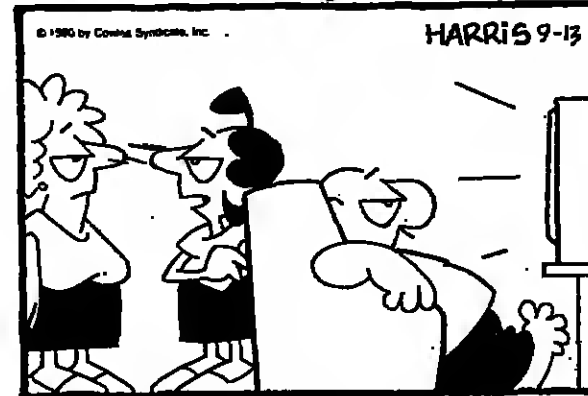
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) The one to whom you are most attached has some right to your help before you get into the various activities you want to engage in today.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You have some longtime friends who are making some demands upon your time and you should yield to their requests before getting into new plans.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) There is much activity in your home and several home members have chores important to them for you to do so don't disappoint them.

THE BETTER HALF.

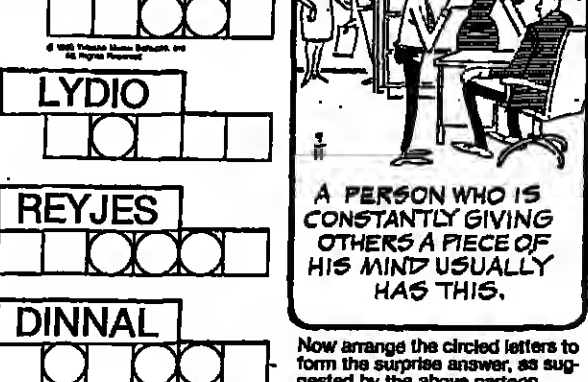
By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

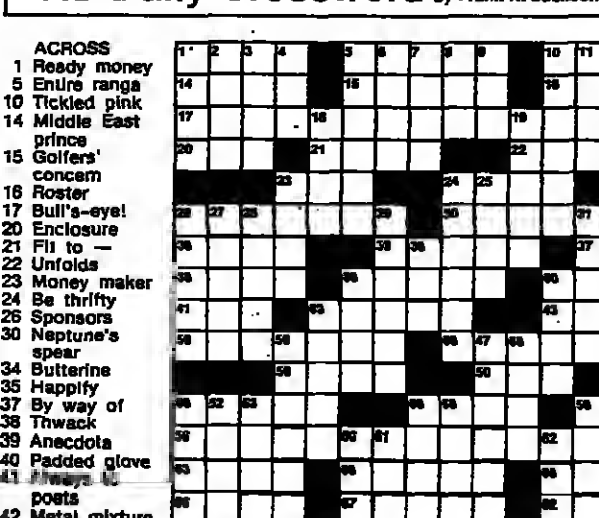


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: TO (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumble: 10101 BERTH POLISH AMBUSH
Answer: When neighbors gossip over a fence, there's much to be said -- ON BOTH SIDES

THE Daily Crossword by Frank R. Jackson



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH
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CARD-READING PERFECTION
North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K Q 10 7 3
♥ Void
♦ K 8 6 3
♣ A J 10 5

EAST
♠ 8 5 4
♥ 7 K 8 6 4 2
♦ 7 J 10
♣ 8 6 2

SOUTH
♠ A J 9 2
♥ A Q 5
♦ Q 7 5 4
♣ K 3

The bidding:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠

Bridge behind what was the Iron Curtain is flourishing, especially in Poland. Here's a hand played by Irina Raczynska at the recent European Mixed Teams Championship in Bordeaux, France.

When the major-suit probe located the spade fit, North wasted no time in getting to a slam. As the cards were, that contract was shaky,

but switch declarer's red-suit holdings and a grand slam would have been reasonable play.

West led the jack of diamonds, ducked to declarer's queen. After drawing trumps in three rounds, declarer guessed well by cashing the king and ace of clubs, then running the jack for a ruffing finesse. When East did not cover, declarer discarded a diamond.

Another club now would have been fatal, since West would have been able to shift the ten of diamonds. Instead, declarer led a low diamond from the king! East could not rise with the ace without handing South her contract on a silver platter, so was forced to play low, and West's ten woo. But now West was endangered, and the forced return of a heart into declarer's tenace allowed declarer to get rid of dummy's remaining diamonds and claim the slam.

Note that declarer's diamond play would have worked equally well had East held a doubleton ace of diamonds. The suit would now be established while declarer still had a trump in hand to ruff the losing club. A beautiful hand.

'Sell dollars and buy yen'

TOKYO (R) — Tokyo stocks closed sharply higher Monday, taking heart as the yen strengthened against the dollar and bond prices firmed.

The Tokyo stock market's key 225-share Nikkei average was up 719.04 points or 3.21 per cent to 23,109.20.

"We had some index-linked buying in spurts all day long, after gains on Wall Street Friday got the market off on the right foot this morning," one broker said.

"But nobody can be actually bullish while the Mideast situation is still a mess."

The Nikkei rose from the opening on Friday's 1.4 per cent advance in the Dow Jones industrial

average and declines in New York crude oil prices. Buying of domestic demand-linked shares, seen benefitting from the yen's new strength, provided the power the market needed to build on the gains.

The dollar closed at 128.15 yen and 1.5247 marks after closing in New York Friday at 129.00 yen and 1.5240 marks.

Indications of sluggish U.S. economic growth and gains made by the yen versus the mark continued to depress the dollar.

"The dollar is top-heavy and should fall to 127.00 yen this week. Then it could be supported by comments by U.S. monetary authorities," said Yukio Matsu-

naga, manager at Industrial Bank of Japan (IBJ).

For the week, dealers say general direction in the Tokyo currency market is clear: "Sell dollars and buy yen," IBJ's Matsu-naga expects the dollar to move in a 127-129 yen range this week with no obvious support for the dollar.

In regional markets, the Australian sharemarket turned early gains into afternoon losses despite the bullish offshore markets and a surprise cut in official local cash rates. Brokers were surprised by a lack of institutional support, which resulted in the market drifting lower in relatively buoyant volume.

Lebanese lira recovers

BEIRUT (R) — The Lebanese lira rose sharply Monday after rebel General Michel Aoun was ousted from his Beirut stronghold. The central bank said it closed at a rate of 780 to 800 liras to the dollar. This compared with the Friday closure of 1,030/1,050 liras before Syrian and Lebanese troops seized the enclave. Depositors, speculators and banks rushed to sell the U.S. currency creating a huge demand for the lira.

"People are optimistic that the fall of General Aoun will pave the way for peaceful and prosperous days ahead," said Sami Naamani, an exchange dealer at a local bank. "Any political breakthrough in Lebanon leads to an economic one pertaining to foreign financial aid," Naamani said, adding that the central bank intervened to secure an organised rise in the value of the lira. "The central bank bought around \$45 million and it seems it will continue to intervene in the market until the value of lira is stabilised," Naamani said. The lira, once the most stable currency in the Middle East, lost more than 100 per cent of its value this year.

Prodged by Gulf crisis

Egypt, IMF find broad agreement

CAIRO (R) — Egypt and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), spurred by the Gulf crisis, have reached broad agreement on reforms to revitalise the badly battered economy, Western and Egyptian economists say.

A formal accord would pave the way for Cairo to reschedule some of its \$50 billion in foreign debts.

Economists say negotiators on the sidelines of an IMF meeting in Washington two weeks ago removed the last major obstacles to an agreement after more than two years of talks.

Paul Chabrier, deputy director of the IMF's Middle East department, will arrive in Cairo Tuesday to start settling remaining details.

"The Egyptians came a long way and the IMF also moved," said a Western economist who has followed negotiations closely. "I would characterise them as having reached nearly complete agreement."

However, economists say an actual signing is unlikely before the end of the year.

They say Iraqi President Saddam Hussein gave the negotiators a jolt when he invaded Kuwait. Egypt's economy, already suffering from massive hidden unemployment, inflation of around 25 per cent and a large budget deficit, suddenly lost receipts from tourists and remittances from hundreds of thousands of workers fleeing the Gulf.

Economists say that Western governments have not overtly pushed either the IMF or Egypt but implicit pressure on both has been strong.

One issue that had been "tacitly assumed pressure" on the IMF by Western governments and domestic political pressure on Egypt.

One issue to be settled is interest rates on bank loans. Egypt has proposed replacing fixed rates with a system where banks would be free to set rates within a specified range.

The government reportedly wants a range of seven to 22 per

cent. The IMF, while approving the concept, argues for a higher ceiling to reflect the high inflation rate.

The proposal is part of a package summed up in a recent Egyptian letter to the IMF. The package encourages the market to determine interest and foreign exchange rates but stops short of a completely free float.

According to the package, the central bank exchange rate, now at two pounds to the dollar, would be merged over the next few months with the commercial bank rate of around 2.75.

Most tourists buy pounds at the commercial rate.

The commercial rate would be set according to formula designed closely to track the freely convertible "parallel" rate now trading at 2.85 pounds. Access for those wanting to buy foreign exchange at the cheaper commercial bank rate would be restricted.

The package also includes a series of deficit-cutting measures,

although the IMF would like more.

Over the last few months Egypt has sharply increased prices on a wide range of consumer goods and the government has agreed on more of the same, an economist said.

However, he said, the feeling now is that the Gulf crisis has created so many budget unknowns, including the price Egypt will get for oil exports, that nobody is quite sure what the deficit will be.

Other parts of the package include developing an auction system for the government to sell securities to control market liquidity.

The two sides have still to agree on how much bank credit expansion and government borrowing from the central bank should be allowed.

An agreement will require new legislation that must be ratified by a new parliament due to be elected Nov. 29. It also needs approval from the IMF's executive board.

Oil prices drift lower

LONDON (R) — Crude oil prices drifted lower on European markets Monday as traders watched for any shift in the stand-off on the Gulf crisis.

North Sea Brent blend prices, a marker for internationally traded crudes, fell as much as \$1.50 from Friday's level before settling about \$1 lower by mid-afternoon in London.

"The market's psychology remains that war is still on the cards, but, lacking fresh news, prices are off a dollar," said Lawrence Eagles, analysts with GNI Commodities.

Traders said they were not considering the decline in oil prices to mean a lessening of tension in the Gulf.

Reports that the deployment of U.S. forces in the Gulf was nearing completion could only mean that the Gulf crisis was moving closer to a war footing, they said.

In addition, a report that Saudi Arabia's oil reserves are 60 billion barrels above the proven level of 257.5 billion barrels caused a flicker of interest in the markets but had little impact on prices.

Polly Peck sells hotel to northern Cyprus

ISTANBUL (R) — Polly Peck, the troubled British group owned by Asil Nadir, has sold its 93 per cent stake in a hotel in breakaway northern Cyprus for \$12 million, a senior official said Monday.

Nazir Borman, finance minister of the self-proclaimed "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" (TRNC), said his government had bought Polly Peck's stake in the Salamis Bay Hotel for \$6.15 million (\$12 million).

The TRNC government, which already had seven per cent of the hotel, agreed to buy the remainder at a special cabinet meeting Friday, Borman said.

"The same day, we transferred \$10 million in cash to London," he told Reuters by telephone.

Borman said Polly Peck bought its stake in the hotel earlier this year from Britain's Leonard Fairclough Hotels Company for a reported \$8.15 million (now \$15.9 million).

"We couldn't close our eyes to a hotel like Salamis Bay which has one-third of the total bed capacity of north Cyprus," Borman said. "This acquisition was very important to us."

Polly Peck, negotiating with some 60 London creditor banks

to roll over £200 million (\$390 million) in short-term debt, won a month's standstill on its debt arrears Friday.

Borman said there was no evidence that Polly Peck would dispose of more of its assets in northern Cyprus. Businesses owned by Nadir and Polly Peck are estimated to make up one-third of the total national income.

Nadir, a Turkish-Cypriot businessman, is a political ally of Turkish President Turgut Ozal. Ankara, which believes that the Polly Peck affair is a Greek-Cypriot attack to bring down Nadir, already supports northern Cyprus with some \$70 million in financial aid annually.

Several Turkish banks have agreed to put up cash for Polly Peck's Turkish subsidiaries. The private Yapi Kredi Bank has agreed to extend \$25 to \$30 million in short-term credits.

Banking sources said Is Bank, Turkey's biggest private bank, would extend around \$30 million and Polly Peck was also negotiating with other private banks for similar credit lines.

Albania reports rise in tourism

VIENNA (R) — Communist Albania, for long Europe's most inaccessible country, is experiencing a tourist boom, the state news agency ATA has reported. The state travel company Albaturist was quoted as saying that 21,000 foreign tourists visited Albania in the first eight months of 1990 and a further 3,000 were expected by December. West Germans, Greeks and Yugoslavs formed the biggest groups. ATA said in July that the number of tourists from many countries had doubled since 1989. In addition, Albaturist now cooperated with nine foreign tourist groups, against four in 1989. Officials regard tourism, particularly along the Adriatic coast, as a key area of development but the country still lacks the necessary infrastructure. In July, the Vienna branch of a Western consultancy firm said it had been commissioned to draft a plan for an investment of \$200 million in hotels by 1995 and a tenfold rise in foreign tourists by the year 2000.

'Saudis discover vast new oil reserves'

WASHINGTON (R) — Saudi Arabia has discovered extensive new reserves of high quality crude oil in areas of the country never previously explored, the Washington Post reported Monday.

Quoting unnamed Saudi officials, the newspaper said there were indications that the new

finds represented a major new resource that could boost the country's oil reserves by at least 20 per cent.

Although the Saudi exploration programme was begun more than a year before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Saudi officials now were more willing to discuss the

finds in the hope of signalling the jittery world market that long-term supplies of oil in the Gulf were plentiful, the Post said.

At a minimum "it's more oil than the whole reserves of some other members" of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting

Oil-rich Brunei faces uphill task wooing foreign investors

SINGAPORE (R) — Oil-rich Brunei, preparing for the day its oil wells run dry, is energetically wooing foreign investors to help diversify its economy.

But economists say Brunei faces an uphill task because of the small size of its domestic market, poor infrastructure, and the high cost of doing business there.

A shortage of skilled labour, a lack of up-to-date economic data and the secretive way in which Brunei handles its political and economic affairs are also likely to deter investors, analysts said at a recent seminar on investing in Brunei.

"They are late-comers in the race to woo foreign investors to the region. Neighbouring Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia have been successful in recent years because of well-laid down investment policies, but Brunei's are vague," said one analyst.

"We would be happy to get \$2 billion in foreign investments over the next five years," Malai Ali Othman, permanent secretary of Brunei's industry and primary resources ministry, said in an interview.

Oil has turned Brunei, which gained independence from Britain in 1984, into one of the world's wealthiest nations.

The sultanate, located on Borneo Island, has financial reserves estimated at over \$25 billion, and its 250,000 people are pampered

from cradle to grave. They pay no taxes and receive free medical care and education.

Oil and gas account for almost 98 per cent of export revenues, which amounted to \$2.14 billion in 1989, up from about \$2 billion in 1988, according to finance ministry statistics made available at the seminar.

But Brunei's oil reserves are expected to run out in about 20 years and the prime minister, Sultan Sir Hassanal Bolkiah, launched a five-year \$1.6 billion development plan in 1986 to diversify the economy.

The plan, which focuses on improving infrastructure, will be followed by a new programme seeking to create 2,000 small- and medium-scale enterprises in the manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and ceramic sectors.

"We don't have a domestic market to speak of, so we are going for export industries... we have a labour problem, so we are looking at more capital-intensive industries," Malai said.

"We have a vision that by the end of the century 30 per cent of our exports will come from the non-oil and gas sectors," he said, adding that new industrial projects would come onstream over the next three years.

Financial incentives, such as tax exemptions on earnings and imports of capital goods and raw materials, are competitive compared to those granted by Brunei's neighbours, he said.

The government, which set up the ministry of industry and primary resources last year to boost investments, has received an encouraging response from Taiwan and Singapore, Malai said.

The Royal Dutch Petroleum Co. (Shell), which first found oil in Brunei in 1926, is Brunei's main foreign investor, producing oil in partnership with the government. Gas is produced in a venture between the Mitsubishi, Shell and Japan's Mitsubishi Corp.

Analysts said foreign investors were likely to face problems getting local people to work on assembly lines because most Bruneians preferred to be employed by the state. The state offers very attractive salaries and employs nearly 40 per cent of the nation's 90,000-strong workforce.

But Malai said the government was trying to resolve the problem, adding that there had been no major revision in government salaries since 1983.

"There will come a point when our people will have to choose between the private sector and not having any jobs," he said. Official figures show Brunei's unemployment rate rose to 6.1 per cent in 1989 from 3.6 per cent in 1988.

Analysts also criticised Brunei's poor infrastructure, which pales in comparison to its fast-developing neighbours.

But a Shell official said: "I don't think infrastructure is a big problem and it should be overcome in a few years. Brunei has a lot of money and they don't believe in building anything second best."

The recent surge in oil prices due to the Gulf crisis is expected to boost real gross domestic product growth to over 3.0 per cent in 1990 from 2.7 per cent in 1989 and 0.9 per cent in 1988, government officials said.

Housing costs bring up Israeli price index

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's consumer price index jumped 2.1 per cent in September, with rapidly rising housing costs contributing more than half the increase, the government announced Monday.

The September rise was the highest since 2.5 per cent in April and followed a 1.6 per cent increase in August.

The index, compiled by the Central Bureau of Statistics, measures price changes in a fixed marketbasket of goods and services.

The bureau said consumer price has risen 13.7 per cent since the start of the year and 18.6 per cent in the past 12 months.

Prices rose 20.7 per cent for all of 1989.

The bureau said more than half the September increase was due to rapidly rising housing costs.

A housing shortage caused by the influx of more than 110,000 Soviet Jews since the beginning of the year has pushed up rents and mortgage rates.

Gold may shortly outshine platinum

LONDON (R) — Platinum fell to its lowest level since March 1986 Monday, prompting speculation that the precious metal may soon lose its long-standing premium over gold.

"It looks as though they (platinum and gold) could easily be the same price shortly," said one senior metals dealer.

Platinum, which has fallen prey to recession fears since the Gulf crisis erupted, was fixed at a price of \$403.25 an ounce Monday, only slightly more than \$20 above the price of gold.

Traders said platinum could fall further to around \$380, a price at which buyers have recently been willing to support gold. It traded briefly below \$400 an ounce Monday after opening \$1 higher at \$417.

Gold's morning fix in London was a one-month low of \$381.85 an ounce following overnight selling from the Middle East and U.S. commission houses.

Just before the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, platinum traded at levels near \$480 an ounce, which gave it a premium of about \$100 over gold.

"Suddenly everyone wants to sell platinum but it's difficult to pinpoint who and why. Recession fears seem to be the main answer," the senior dealer said.

Platinum's primarily industrial base has made it more vulnerable than gold to recession signals and higher oil prices stemming from Mideast tension.

Soviet Union has trouble paying for food imports

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union, the world's biggest grain importer, is having trouble finding the money to buy enough foreign food to ease shortages, TASS has said.

One speaker at a parliamentary committee meeting on agriculture and food issues spoke of "bankruptcy," the official Soviet news agency said.

"Hard currency is not roubles. You do not print it at a factory of Gosznak (the state body responsible for issuing banknotes)," it said.

TASS said the Soviet Union, where food rationing is common, had a problem paying foreign companies, many of which had stopped supplies. It said the solution was to import less food.

"Many supplier-firms have talked of cutting off supplies of foodstuffs. Several intend to recover unpaid debts by resorting to international arbitration," it said.

Soviet payment difficulties have caused Western creditors much concern this year.

Yuri Moskovsky, head of the Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs, told a news conference last week that about 2.5 billion roubles (\$4.6 billion) of overdue debt had probably been repaid to various companies.

He said about two billion roubles (\$3.7 billion) might remain outstanding.

The arrears followed a drop in oil exports, a major hard currency earner, and economic reforms that allowed Soviet companies to conduct foreign trade on their own for the first time.

The TASS account of the committee meeting was carefully phrased to avoid divulging confidential information about planned Soviet imports.

But it made clear that much food had to be bought overseas this year to meet domestic shortages.

"It is enough to look in state storage bins, or look at statistical accounts on the performance of enterprises in the food industry, or simply to visit a neighbourhood food store," it said.

"We will leave blank the figure. Let us just say that it is significant... products are being bought," it added.

Increased barter trade might be a solution to the problem of paying for imports, TASS pointed out.

Meanwhile, a senior Soviet central bank official has denied a press report that Moscow would soon devalue the official rate of the rouble, but he said a new exchange rate could be introduced for trade transactions.

Alexander Voitenkov, deputy head of the central bank (Gosbank) hard currency department, described the report in the Soviet business weekly Kommersant as misleading.

"The question was whether to introduce a commercial rate of 1.8 roubles to the dollar or to devalue the official rate," he told Reuters. The official rouble exchange rate is currently about 0.56 roubles to the dollar.

"Now the preferred option is to introduce a new commercial rate to be used in virtually all transactions," he said.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES			
Monday, October 15, 1990			
Central Bank official rates			
	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	651.0	655.0	
Pound Sterling	1270.9	1278.5	
Deutschemark	427.2	429.8	
Swiss franc	507.0	510.0	
French franc	127.5	128.3	
Japanese yen (for 100)	508.1	511.1	
Dutch guilder	378.9	381.2	
Swedish crown	115.3	116.0	
Italian lira (for 100)	57.1	57.4	
Belgian franc (for 10)	207.9	209.1	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES			
Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at mid-session on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.			
One Sterling	1.9520/30	U.S. dollar	
One U.S. dollar	1.1550/60	Canadian dollar	
	1.5250/55	Deutschemark	
	1.7180/90	Dutch guilders	
	1.2890/2900	Swiss francs	
	31.32/37	Belgian francs	
	5.0965/1015	French francs	
	1140/1141	Italian lire	
	127.85/95	Japanese yen	
	5.6325/75	Swedish crowns	
	5.9000/50	Norwegian crowns	
	5.8020/70	Danish crowns	
One ounce of gold	380.75/381.25	U.S. dollars	

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Performances: 3:30, 6:30, 8:30 p.m.

Cinema **CONCORD** Tel: 677420
WHO FRAMED ROGER RABBIT
3:15, 5:15, 6:45, 8:45 p.m.

Cinema **NIJOM** Tel: 675571
SHINING
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30
Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144
HOT SHOT
Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:00, 8:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238
Adel Imam & Yusra
KARAKON IN THE STREET
Performances: 12:30, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00 p.m.

GRATITUDE

The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany wishes to thank all officials, citizens, public and private institutions, Diplomatic Missions and U.N. Organisations in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, for the warm congratulatory telegrams, telephone calls and visits on the occasion of the proclamation of the German unity on 3.10.1990. Relevant press comments and articles were noted with deep appreciation.

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Kohl wins landslide victory in east

BERLIN (R) — A landslide victory by Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats (CDU) in regional elections in eastern Germany has put more pressure on the government to rescue the former Communist area's shattered economy.

Official results Monday showed the CDU won four out of five states, with an absolute majority of 53.8 per cent in Saxony and the largest vote in Thuringia, Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern.

Their left-of-centre Social Democratic (SPD) rivals only stemmed the conservative tide in Brandenburg, winning 38.3 per cent of the poll against the CDU's 29.4 per cent.

"A giant victory for Kohl," screamed the right-wing Bild tabloid. "Kohl reaps the harvest: The east votes black," said the left-wing Tageszeitung, referring to the traditional colour of German conservatives.

The victory handed Kohl a majority in Bonn's upper house of parliament, the SPD's last

toehold on power, and put him on the road to a triumph in the first post-war all-German general election on Dec. 2.

Kohl drew the biggest campaign crowds as the architect of

German unity but participation slipped to 69 per cent from 75 per cent in May's municipal elections, reflecting voter weariness at the third East German poll of this year.

Voters backed Kohl even though rapid unification exposed East Germany's economy, feather-bedded for years by central planning, to the West's free market, putting one in four workers on the dole or onto state-funded short-time work.

Businessmen say the real shake-out of inefficient industry has yet to start, posing the new regions with their biggest challenge as they cope with three million unemployed.

"Only time will tell whether citizens of the new states will be satisfied," said a sceptical Neues Deutschland, the newspaper of East Germany's once all-powerful Communists.

Now renamed the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), they won 11.3 per cent of the vote, a five-per-cent drop from the East German general election in March, but easily enough to jump the threshold for seats in the Bonn parliament.

The absorption of eastern Germany has transformed the political landscape, giving the CDU,

which had lost every state election in West Germany since 1988, a new lease of life.

The Social Democrats, who had seemed on the verge of a comeback after eight years out of power in Bonn, have sunk to their lowest scores since the 1950s.

Analysts said the main reasons were Kohl's personal identification with German unity, the CDU's reputation for economic competence and its strong organisation in the east, ironically left over from its 40 years as a fellow traveller with the Communists.

Parties began talks Monday on forming coalitions to rule the four states where the CDU did not win an absolute majority.

A coalition of the CDU and the Liberal Free Democrat (FDP) Party, which won 7.5 per cent of the overall vote, was the most likely outcome for Thuringia, Saxony-Anhalt and Mecklenburg — the same partnership which rules in Bonn.

The most complex negotiations were likely in Brandenburg, where the SPD had a choice between trying to bring together both the Liberals and the alliance of ecologist Greens and Civil Rights Activists, or a "grand coalition" with the CDU.

Even though the CDU needs no coalition partners in Saxony, its new premier Kurt Biedenkopf has said he may try to draw other political groups into his government.

Meanwhile, German Interior Minister Wolfgang Schäuble still has not recovered nerve functions lost two days ago when a would-be assassin's bullet lodged near his spinal column, doctors said Monday.

"The overall condition of Minister Schäuble is very serious," said Dr. Wolfgang Gerok, staff chief of Freiburg University Hospital. "Neurological deficiencies existing from the start have not improved so far."

The minister underwent further surgery overnight to relieve bonemarrow swelling, Gerok said. He said Schäuble, 48, was awake and alert Monday morning but had no artificial respiration. Schäuble, who was tipped as Chancellor Helmut Kohl's heir apparent, underwent five hours of surgery Saturday to remove the bullet. Doctors have refused to say whether he will be paralysed.

He was shot by a lone gunman Friday night as he left a tavern near Offenbach in the Black Forest.



People surge forward as People's Party President Lal Krishna Advani's vehicle races on to Ayodhya

Hindu leaders detained to prevent clash with Muslims over holy site

LUCKNOW, India (AP) — Police have detained about 1,000 Hindu fundamentalists to try to head off a confrontation with Muslims over a holy site claimed by both religions.

Police sources said Monday the sweep included at least nine members of the state legislature of Uttar Pradesh who may spend the next two weeks in jail under "preventive arrest."

The activists were held under regulations allowing the state to make arrests on a charge of "apprehension of breach of peace," the sources said.

The crackdown was ordered by Mulayam Singh Yadav, the chief minister or highest elected state official, hoping to preempt Hindu-Muslim violence in the holy town of Ayodhya later this month.

Hindu fundamentalists say they will build a temple on the site where they believe the powerful Hindu God Rama was born.

A mosque stands on the disputed site. Hindus claim the mosque was built on the ruins of a temple destroyed in the 16th century by Mogul conquerors. Muslims say that there was no earlier temple and that Hindus did not claim the site until 1949.

The Hindu World Council, a fundamentalist movement, has vowed to begin the temple's construction on Oct. 30, despite pending cases in the state's high court.

Yadav flew to New Delhi to meet Prime Minister V.P. Singh to consider further options. Sources said he was considering sealing off the town of Faizabad, which is on the main road leading to Ayodhya, and diverting all trains around the area.

The detainees would remain in jail until after Oct. 30 unless they swore to a magistrate that they would cause no trouble, said police sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Among those arrested were the editor of a Hindi-language newspaper in Ghaziabad and the vice president of the Hindu World Council, Deoki Nanda Agarwal, a retired judge from Allahabad.

City councillors and senior local leaders of the Bharatiya Janatha Party, or Indian People's Party, and religious leaders from Ayodhya also were arrested, as well as at least two Muslim leaders who support the Hindu cause.

The dispute threatens the stability of Singh's minority government, which relies for its survival on the right-wing People's Party. The party backs the Hindu claims to the site they call Ram Janambhoomi, or Rama's birthplace.

Singh has urged restraint by both sides. But People's Party President Lal Krishna Advani is on a much publicised 10,000-kilometre pilgrimage to Ayodhya, pressing what he calls a clear case of majority rights.

Hindus comprise 82 per cent of India's 880 million people. Mus-

lims are 12 per cent.

Advani has indicated he may break with Singh's government over the issue, which would bring the coalition down, though he has left a door open for a negotiated settlement.

Meanwhile, Sikh gunmen killed 10 Sikh farmers sleeping in a remote house and four policemen in two attacks in Punjab state early Monday, a police official said.

Senior superintendent of police Sanjay Gupta blamed all the killings on Sikh extremists fighting for an independent nation. But other sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the farmers may have been victims of a land dispute.

The four policemen were ambushed early Monday by gunmen hiding in a sugar cane field near Sangha, 35 kilometres north of Amritsar, Gupta said. One policeman was Hindu, and another was Christian. The other two were Sikhs.

The attackers escaped with their victims' weapons and ammunition, Gupta said. At Dholbakkalan, 25 kilometres north of Amritsar, about a dozen gunmen attacked a farmhouse where 15 Sikh farmers were sleeping early Monday, Gupta said.

The attackers sprayed the house with gunfire and fled, leaving 10 farmers dead and four seriously wounded. One farmer was unhurt, Gupta said.

Mazowiecki kicks off campaign

KRAKOW, Poland (AP) — Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki has kicked off his presidential campaign, criticising the economic policies of opponent Lech Walesa as "amateurish experiments."

While not mentioning Walesa by name, Mazowiecki portrayed himself as the candidate of law and stability in a speech to a packed audience. He characterised his opponent's policies as unpredictable, ad hoc solutions.

The contest has split the Solidarity labour movement, pitting the East Bloc's first non-Communist prime minister against Walesa, chairman of the federa-

tion and a former Mazowiecki ally.

The country's first direct presidential election is Nov. 25. Poland will choose a successor to Wojciech Jaruzelski, who is stepping down 4 and 1/2 years before the end of his term.

Thousands chanted "Mazowiecki, Mazowiecki" as the prime minister strolled through the city's old market and laid a wreath in honour of a Polish patriot. He declared his candidacy for the nation's top office on Oct. 4.

In a speech at the Krakow Philharmonic Hall, Mazowiecki told the 1,000 invited guests that

the choice facing voters was between himself and "some demagogues" who promise "magical solutions" to economic problems.

"Our policy is going through a steep and thorny path, but this is the only possible way leading to improving the republic and creating better, more decent conditions," he said.

He was referring to the country's shock economic reform programme, which is expected to raise unemployment to 1.3 million by the end of the year.

"We cannot go back. We cannot change the route halfway," Mazowiecki said.

Pakistan rejects U.S. inspection demand

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Pakistan has rejected U.S. demands to inspect its nuclear installations as discriminatory and started looking for ways to diminish Washington's influence over this Muslim country, reports said Monday.

The inspection demand was made recently during a meeting between Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to discuss the suspension of \$573

million in U.S. aid.

The United States suspended aid to Pakistan on Oct. 1 because a law required such action if President George Bush was unable to certify that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device. The suspension took effect automatically when Bush failed to certify.

Washington asked to inspect Pakistan's nuclear facilities in the town of Kahuta, about 20 kilometres east of Islamabad, the

influential Urdu-language newspaper Nawa-i-Waqt reported Monday.

But Pakistan insisted its nuclear programme is for peaceful purposes and denied inspection "as a matter of principle," said the newspaper, quoting unnamed government officials.

"Islamabad will not submit itself to any such demand that includes Pakistan but excludes India," one official was quoted as saying.

Khmer Rouge deserting battlefield

BANGKOK (R) — Hundreds of Khmer Rouge guerrillas fighting off government forces in a malaria-ridden, mine-strewn corner of Cambodia are deserting the front line, relief officials and guerrillas said Monday.

They said soldiers from the Khmer Rouge army, the strongest of three groups waging an 11-year-old war against Phnom Penh, had in the last few weeks fled heavy fighting to a U.N.-assisted refugee camp across the Thai border.

"We have never seen such a quantity of able-bodied males in that camp," one refugee official said.

Relief workers had no exact figures for the number of guerril-

las fleeing the government siege on Pailin, a gem-rich town 10 kilometres from the Thai border held by the Khmer Rouge for the past year.

The heavily defeated town, garrisoned by two Khmer Rouge divisions, has been under attack by troops of the Hun Sen government since late September. Guerrilla officials allied to the Khmer Rouge said both sides had lost many soldiers in the fighting.

"The Khmer Rouge will never let Pailin go. It is their most vital area," one said.

Guerrilla officials and relief workers said usually very few Khmer Rouge guerrillas fled their posts for fear of execution.

The secretive Communist organisation which oversaw the deaths of one million Cambodians during its 1975-8 rule, is led by hard-core cadres but its ranks are filled mainly by conscripts from refugee camps along the Thai-Cambodian border.

Civilian defectors and camp officials said there was also a growing fatigue towards the war which has dragged on since Vietnam's 1979 invasion and has worsened since the withdrawal of Hanoi's troops last year.

Relief officials and hundreds of deserting guerrillas had fled to Site K, a United Nations-assisted camp about 70 kilometres north of the Thai town of Trat controlled by the Khmer Rouge.

Bhutto's allies vow crusade against corruption

ISLAMABAD (R) — The political alliance of former Premier Benazir Bhutto, who was ousted from power on corruption charges, pledged Monday to launch its own anti-graft crusade if voted back in next week's elections.

Former Higher Education Minister Shahbaz Wazir Ali launched the People's Democratic Alliance (PDA) manifesto promising to eradicate corruption if returned to power.

But an opinion poll published by Gallup Pakistan showed Bhutto trailing 10 per cent behind the Islamic Democratic Alliance (IDA) with nine days to go before elections.

Opinion surveys have a mixed record in Pakistan, but commentator Mushahid Hussain said he thought the IDA had the edge. Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP), the main component of the PDA, has increased its support in recent weeks but was hurt Sunday by a court verdict upholding the president's decision to sack her on Aug. 6.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan accused Bhutto of presiding over massive corruption, abuse of power and nepotism and set up special courts to try the former premier and several of her ministerial colleagues.

Bhutto denies any wrongdoing and the PDA manifesto calls for senior officials, public representatives and the president to be required to declare their assets.

Ishaq Khan's accountability process has been restricted to the 20 months of Bhutto's time in office.

Conductor Leonard Bernstein dies at 72

NEW YORK (R) — Leonard Bernstein, the best-known American conductor of the 20th century and composer of such popular classics as West Side Story, died Sunday less than a week after poor health forced him to retire from public performing.

Bernstein, 72, began his musical career at the age of 10 when an aunt gave him a piano. He became one of the century's most visible, exciting and beloved conductors.

Margaret Carson, his spokeswoman, said he died at his New York flat from cardiac arrest brought on by progressive lung failure. She said his funeral would be private.

Last Tuesday, Bernstein's doctor ordered him to retire from public performing, forcing him to cancel appearances with several of the world's top orchestras.

A life-long smoker who often conducted rehearsals with a cigarette instead of a baton, Bernstein suffered in recent years from severe lung problems.

News of his death stunned concert-goers in New York. Members of the New York Philharmonic, which Bernstein led from 1957 to 1969, wept.

"We played our hearts out for him," said oboist Jerome Roth of the man who was the orchestra's first American-born conductor.

As word of his death spread at Carnegie Hall, where he often performed, musicians said they felt his presence.

"He'll always be here," said Kristin Kuhn, director of the Carnegie Hall recital stage on hearing the news. "When you step onto the stage you can feel all the greats who have walked there. Now we can feel Bernstein. We always will."

Stagehand Leslie Gooding said Bernstein was a "fantastic guy. He used to get up on stage and dance after our New Year's party. He was all right."

Mercouri defeated in bid to become Athens mayor

ATHENS (R) — Melina Mercouri, the Greek actress turned fiery Socialist politician, lost her bid to become mayor of Athens, the top prize in nationwide local elections.

The outcome of Sunday's poll was another major blow for the Socialists after being ousted from the national government last year and a triumph for the ruling conservatives, who were seeking support for tough measures to beat an ailing economy.

"The results show popular acceptance of the government's policy towards modernisation and the recovery of our country," Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis told reporters.

With 87.4 per cent of the votes counted in Athens, Mercouri conceded defeat to Antonis Tritsis, a former Socialist cabinet colleague and one-time decathlon champion.

Tritsis, backed by the ruling New Democracy Party, had secured 50.2 per cent of the ballot and Mercouri 45.9.

The outspoken city planner, expelled by the Socialists after he failed to support them in a parliamentary confidence vote, was dubbed "minister of visions" for his daring policies while environment and education minister.

Mercouri's promises to restore pride in the capital's cultural heritage did not sway citizens who struggle daily with sickening air pollution, traffic jams and chaotic public transport.

Tritsis campaigned by walking the streets of the crowded city and said he would introduce a public transport system that would ease traffic.

"I wish Mr. Tritsis every success in materialising the ambitious plan he has promised the Athenian people," Mercouri said.

Seoul opposition leader on hunger strike hospitalised

SEOUL (R) — Veteran South Korean politician Kim Dae-Jung was forcibly taken to hospital by his supporters Monday on the eighth day of his hunger strike for democratic reforms, witnesses said.

Kim, 66, was rushed by ambulance to a hospital in Western Seoul after refusing to end his protest at the weekend despite pleas from his supporters.

Doctors said he suffered from low blood sugar and dehydration, while news reports said Kim had lost nearly 4.5 kilograms.

A member of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP) said the party had called a meeting for Tuesday morning to discuss a response and that some officials showed a softening stance.

Members of Kim's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) decided to force him to go to a hospital after an afternoon meeting.

"The doctors advised hospital and in a congressman's meeting they decided to coerce him to

go," a PPD spokesman said. About 20 politicians also agreed to support Kim's protest by going on hunger strike themselves, starting from Monday night.

A bandful of people are already staging sympathy hunger protests and others have shown support by shaving their heads.

Kim began his fast last Monday to win concessions from President Roh-Tae-Woo, who he believes has ignored opposition demands despite their prolonged walk-out from parliament.

The demands include the promise of local elections and scrapping a plan to change the government from a presidential to a cabinet system.

Kim demands the closure of the Defence Security Command (DSC), the military's intelligence agency, after revelations that the agency keeps tabs on 1,300 prominent civilians, recalling times past when the military dominated politics.

COLUMN

Foot sewn back on leg after 7 months attached to arm

PARIS (AP) — A plastic surgeon Sunday claimed he had reattached a man's foot to his leg — after the foot had spent seven months sewn to the man's arm. The 12-hour operation by a surgical team led by Dr. Maurice Mimoun capped a medical drama to save an accident victim from losing his right foot. Mimoun, 34, said the history-making operation at the Hopital Rothschild last Wednesday unfolded perfectly. If recuperation goes well the man should walk again, though he will probably have a limp. The patient, a man about 40 years old who has never been identified, fell from a subway platform onto the track last March just as a train was pulling into the station. The wheels mangled his lower leg and cleanly severed the foot. Rescue workers placed the foot in an ice pack and rushed it and the man, in deep shock and bleeding heavily, to the hospital. Mimoun decided to graft the foot to the man's forearm. Mimoun hoped to keep blood flowing to the foot, keeping it healthy and nourished while the stump of the man's leg healed. The doctor had originally predicted the foot could be sewn back to the leg within three months. "Because of the extremely bad state of the leg, the foot couldn't be immediately grafted on," Mimoun said Sunday. The foot-to-arm-to-leg operation is the first of its kind in the world, but a Yugoslav team attached a hand to a thorax about four years ago, Mimoun said.

Water rationing ends at shrine

LOURDES, France (AP) — Thanks to recent heavy rains, authorities have ended unprecedented water-rationing measures imposed last month on pilgrims visiting the spring at this world-famous shrine. Under rules imposed on Sept. 19, visitors were asked to limit themselves to only one small container of water. But officials said Saturday that pilgrims once again could take as much of the water as they could carry. The improvement in water supply was attributed to the recent rains and the end of the main pilgrimage season. More than 4 million pilgrims travel each year to Lourdes, where, according to Roman Catholic tradition, the Virgin Mary appeared repeatedly before a 14-year-old girl in 1858. A spring was found at the site, and thousands of people who subsequently prayed and bathed in its waters said they were healed. A medical bureau established at Lourdes has categorised as miracles 65 of the cures attributed to pilgrimages to the shrine.

Jailbreak foiled after inmates complain

OKANOGAN, Washington (AP) — An attempted jailbreak was foiled last week when two inmates trying to escape made so much racket that other prisoners complained to guards, officials said. The two prisoners were chipping away with a piece of metal at the concrete wall of the Okanogan County Jail when they woke up other prisoners last Monday night, jailer Dan Slattery said. Jailers acting on the complaints said they snared the two men. Sheriff Jim Weed said that even if the men had gotten through, they would have found themselves 25 metres above the ground. Billy Dale Anderson, 22, and David Cabaret, 33, now face attempted escape charges in addition to an ongoing investigation on burglary charges, Slattery said.

Actress accidentally shot during scene

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An actor using a loaded gun in a film being made by college students in a cemetery accidentally shot another member of the cast, police said. The victim, a 28-year-old actress, was shot in the chest with a large-caliber handgun at Valhalla Memorial Park, Burbank Police Lt. Gordon Bowers said. She was flown by helicopter to a hospital and was listed in stable condition, Bowers said. Her name was not released. The woman was shot on camera, Sgt. Ed Skarvana said. "Incredible as it may seem... they used a loaded gun," he said. "They didn't know it was loaded or they had forgotten." The actor was questioned, but the shooting appeared to be accidental and there were no arrests, Bowers said.